

OHIO UNIVERSITY TODAY

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Spring 2001

# OHIO TODAY

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF OHIO UNIVERSITY



## Destination: Discovery

Exploring our  
international role

**side:** The flavor of campus cuisine ~ Meet the new hoops coach

*At Ohio University, we've got some work to do. You see, we're looking to raise \$70 million for endowed chairs and named professorships, all in an effort to recruit and retain the very best minds available. \$56 million would be used to establish 28 endowed chairs at an average of \$2 million each to serve at least half of the University's 56 academic departments.*



Chair Thomas Jefferson sat in:  
\$350,000



Chair nobody has sat in:  
\$2,000,000

*The other \$14 million would be used to endow one named professorship at an average cost of \$250,000 or more in each Ohio University department. To learn more about how you can participate in the University's Bicentennial Campaign, contact us soon at 1.800.592.FUND or check the Web at [www.ohio.edu/campaign/](http://www.ohio.edu/campaign/).*

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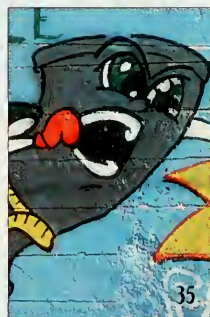
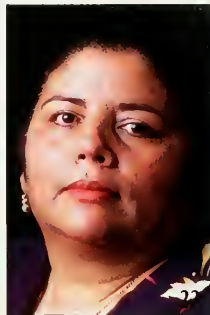
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# A world of difference

By Robert Glidden



It is natural for parents to want more opportunities for their children than they had as young people themselves. The same can be said of university presidents and the experiences they desire for their students. I am proud to be able to speak from both perspectives.

The cover story of this *Ohio Today* is devoted to Ohio University's international pursuits. These endeavors have drawn to Athens this year 1,200 students from 104 countries, students who enrich classroom discussions and enhance campus life.

Similarly, our international ties allow more than 600 students and faculty to travel abroad each year to glean an understanding of other cultures.

As an institution, these endeavors are among our highest priorities. Considering the academic, professional and personal benefits they provide, it is easy to understand why this is so.

Although I hardly considered education abroad as a student myself, I have been fortunate to see the effect such experiences have had on two of my three daughters. Their time in Italy, England and Sweden awakened their intellectual interest in a number of areas, many related to their fields of study and others that provided deep personal enrichment.

I see the same transformation in Ohio University students returning from Leipzig, Germany; Hong Kong; or Quito, Ecuador. Whether their experiences spanned two weeks or two years, their minds have been opened to new ways of thinking and interacting with others.

Many of us grew up at a time when education abroad was considered a bonus, even frivolous perhaps. In tomorrow's world, it will be a necessity.

Technology has made ours a smaller planet, one where a company can conduct a transaction with a business partner around the globe as easily as it can with one around the block. Researchers collaborate with peers not only in their own labs or those of other U.S. universities but with scientists in Asia, Europe and South America.

It would be foolish not to expand students' horizons to the possibilities around the world. Much more than their parents and grandparents, they will be global citizens.

Fortunately, like most things at Ohio University, our international ventures have a history.

My most recent predecessors — John Baker, Vernon Alden and Charles Ping — were keenly aware of the advantages students could realize from study abroad as

well as the insights and perspectives international students could bring to Athens. They forged relationships that remain intact today, agreements that we have been able to build on and supplement.

I have high aspirations for our international relationships, goals that will be accomplished with the success of our ongoing Bicentennial Campaign. Specifically, we want to double the number of students we send abroad by 2004 and recruit more international students to campus.

During my seven years as president, I have traveled throughout the world to establish ties with other higher education institutions. The experiences have helped me see more clearly the cultural nuances one must learn to be effective in a professional setting. I also have a new sense of world history that you just can't get from books.

I realize more than ever the personal growth students gain from studying in other lands and sharing their classrooms with students from other cultures. When they put themselves in a different context, they see the world — and themselves — much differently.



Student Nakrob Wanichukhro performs at a campus event.

Rick Fatica



The International Street Fair brings culture to uptown Athens.

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


## Professors still inspire

I was devastated, as were hundreds of other students, to learn of the death of Dr. Ira Zook, longtime faculty member in the School of Music.

Dr. Zook became a very important person in my life when I attended Ohio University from 1979 to 1982. I transferred to OU as a young married student in the fall of 1979 hoping to finish my degree in music but lacking any confidence in my abilities. Dr. Zook took an inexperienced singer and, through his expertise and love for singing, helped her to grow musically and personally. He was a wonderful role model, both as teacher and as human being, and I will never forget the things he taught me.

In more recent years, his friendship and support gave me encouragement to return to music after having been away from it for some time. He continues to be an inspiration for me as I teach my own students. His loss touches so many individuals. We will never forget him.

**Sherry Woodroof, BMUS '79, MM '82  
Malibu, Calif.** 

Dr. Herbert Lederer, professor of German language and literature at Ohio University from 1955 to 1961, will be 80 years old this June. He has many fond memories of his years in Athens.


His children are preparing a collection of



The late Ira Zook leads the Singing Men of Ohio.


letters and remembrances from former students. Any alums who remember Dr. Lederer (and if you were in one of his classes, you're sure to remember him) are encouraged to send anecdotes, reminiscences

and congratulations to him via his son, George Lederer, at 1041 SE 39th Ave., Portland, Ore., 97214; by e-mail, [glederer@atticsemi.com](mailto:glederer@atticsemi.com); or by fax, (503) 268-8527.

**George Lederer  
Portland, Ore.** 

I sadly read of the passing of Harry Hultgren Jr. in the fall 2000 issue of *Ohio Today*. His classes in archaeology were so sought after by students that you had to struggle to get into them.

Over the years and after two graduate degrees, I often reflected on his classes and what I learned as I traveled the world as an executive for a major pharmaceutical company. I was from a small town in southern Ohio, and it was Dr. Hultgren who opened my eyes to the beauty and treasures of ancient civilizations. As I visited these places, times at Ohio University came back. He was dearly admired by his students.

**Jerry Mann, BS '61  
Jupiter, Fla.** 

## A call for spirit

What has happened to Ohio University spirit? Living in one of the most populous areas in the state, alumni of northeast Ohio seldom if ever see the Ohio University marching band at the OU-Kent football game. Our OU cheerleaders support the team with high-flying flags and never lead a cheer during the entire game.

As alumni we expect more, because we are proud of the green and white.

**Emden Schulze, AB '40, MA '42  
Willoughby, Ohio**

**Editor's note:** Because of limited finances, the Marching 110 travels to just one away football game each season, reports Director Richard Suk. The band's other obligations to the School of Music usually determine the timing of that appearance. Cheerleading adviser Becky Rothgeb says that although they are few in number — six of 16 squad members travel to away games — their Bobcat pride is immense.

## A credit to his University

A dear friend of mine and a true credit to Ohio University, Willard F. Meeker, BSEE '39, passed away last year. While his passing was noted in the fall 2000 *Ohio Today*, I would very much like to pay more homage to this remarkable alumnus.

Willard and I were classmates in the Class of 1939. After graduation, and through different routes, we both ended up at the Radio Corporation of America, or RCA.

In 1985, Willard was a recipient of the David Sarnoff Award for Outstanding Technical Achievement, a coveted recognition attained only by those responsible for significant breakthroughs in technology. The award was presented to Willard and several colleagues for their conception, design and implementation of narrowband speech terminals.

During his impressive and varied career, Willard conducted extensive research on the development and design of acoustical devices and communications systems and worked in RCA's Advanced Technology Laboratories on

speaker authentication, word recognition and bandwidth compression.

I am proud to have counted Willard Meeker among my very dearest friends.

**Robert A. Felmy, BSEE '39  
Willingboro, N.J.**

## Age a matter of perspective

I hope the people living in Salem, N.J., were not upset over your statement, "But the 373-year-old white oak couldn't withstand the strength of a 1998 storm that felled what researchers now know was the oldest recorded hardwood east of the Mississippi River."

The "Salem Oak" (another white oak), a tree in the old Friends' Burial Grounds in Salem, N.J., was believed to be in existence when Columbus discovered America. Salem residents boast that John Fenwick (founder of Salem, N.J.) signed his historic treaty with the local Lenni-Lenape Indian tribe in the fall of 1675 under its outstretched branches.


They expect it to live another 50 to 100 years on top of the 400-plus years it has already survived. It is on the New Jersey State Tree Registry.

I've included material on the tree in a landscape/horticulture class I teach for the New Jersey Department of Corrections to show my class how long oak trees can live.

Hopefully you'll correct your misstatement before any other old New Jersey OU graduates catch on.

**Richard Hern, BS '71  
Salem, N.J.**

**Editor's note:** Researcher Brian McCarthy points out that the Dysart Woods oak is the oldest verifiably recorded oak east of the Mississippi River. Until a tree falls and its rings are counted, there is no way to verify its age. Hopefully that method of documenting the Salem Oak's age won't be possible for many years.

 Indicates letter was received by e-mail.

## Write to us

**Care to comment on an *Ohio Today* story? Or share a memory about your days on campus? Then drop us a letter to the editor. Here's how:**

- Send e-mail to [ohiotoday@ohio.edu](mailto:ohiotoday@ohio.edu).
- By regular mail, send items to Letters, *Ohio Today*, 164 Scott Quad, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701-2979.
- Fax letters to (740) 593-1887.
- Letters may be edited for space and style.

# A sage on her stage: remembering the venerable Miss Brown

By Mary Alice Casey

If you're lucky, you had a teacher like Miss Brown.

Patricia Ackerman, Connie Savoca Beringer and William Brill feel they are very, very lucky. They had the real thing.

Lurene Brown, AB '32 and MA '36, returned to her alma mater as an acting English instructor in the summer of 1946 after several years as a primary and secondary school teacher. She remained until June 1978, when she retired from the English Department faculty as an associate professor. A note jotted by longtime President's Office secretary Marie White informed President Charles Ping of Brown's departure: "Lurene Brown has retired quietly (she wants no publicity), so has returned her contract unsigned."

Ackerman, BA '66, now chair of the Ohio University Board of Trustees, says it's time she and Brown's other disciples sing their mentor's praises.

"It truly is long overdue," says Ackerman, who wants to see Brown remembered in the University's new Emeriti Park. "I believe people who benefited from her instruction will come out of the woodwork and say, 'I'm part of Miss Brown's Brigade. I'm one of the ones she prepared to do the right thing.'"

The right thing, at least for Ackerman and Beringer, her college roommate, was to teach. They and hundreds of others had Brown for Methods in the Teaching of High School English. Both can still hear her favorite line: "You cannot teach what you do not know."

Several contributors to *Ohio Today's* letters column have shared their memories of Brown

after reading of her October 1999 death in the magazine. They noted in particular the professor's grammar and usage tests, which she required her students to pass with a score of 90 or above.

"People really sweat that," Ackerman recalls. "She set the bar very high."

"I believe people who benefited from her instruction will come out of the woodwork and say, 'I'm part of Miss Brown's Brigade.'"

— Patricia Ackerman

Yet Beringer, who teaches English at Skyline College near San Francisco, says she appreciates the confidence she gained from clearing that bar so many years ago.

"I am not afraid of any question whatsoever concerning grammar because of the grounding I got in Miss Brown's class," says Beringer, BA '65. "I attribute a lot of my confidence in other things to her as well."

Toward the end of Brown's career, William Brill, AB '77, took her Introduction to Fiction course during winter quarter of his junior year. Their relationship endured long after he had absorbed the short stories by Thurber, Steinbeck and Chekhov she required students to read. They kept in touch by letter, and he would stop at her home on Grand Park Boulevard when he made it back to Athens a couple of times a year.

"She had a lot of former students who visited," says Brill, a Columbus attorney who helped with Brown's personal affairs in her later years. "She called her house

Brown's Beany and Bunkhouse because students would stop by for coffee, and they were always welcome to stay the night."

Yet in the classroom, he says, Brown was demanding, wanting only the best effort from her students. Asked to describe her, Brill seems able to visualize Brown standing in front of his fiction class like it was yesterday, not two and a half decades ago: "chestnut hair, bookwormish glasses, petite."

Stature didn't seem to stand in Brown's way, though, when it came to taking command of her class. That's something on which Ackerman, Brill and Beringer all agree:

"She was the sage on her stage,"

notes Ackerman. "She was the czar of her classroom," adds Brill. "She had a serious purpose and she communicated that with her students," says Beringer. "There was nothing frivolous about her."

Nothing frivolous perhaps — but memorable. *Mary Alice Casey is editor of Ohio Today.*

## How you can participate

To pay tribute to Lurene Brown, Patricia Ackerman proposes a landscaped garden, wooden bench and tree be placed in Emeriti Park. Thirty-seven features have been named in honor of distinguished former faculty and staff since the four-acre park was established at South Green Drive and Oxbow Trail last year. The Brown memorial, which would be designated with a plaque, would cost \$12,000, and Ackerman has put up the first \$500. To contribute to the fund or find out how to honor any former faculty or staff member, call 1-800-592-FUND or send an e-mail to [giving@ohio.edu](mailto:giving@ohio.edu).

## WOUB memories live on

I enjoyed reading about WOUB in your fall 2000 issue. There was another OU radio station in the early '50s operated by SAE.

WGAM, located in the fraternity house on East State Street, was named after the local fraternity, Gamma Gamma Gamma, before it went national with SAE. Intended for the area around the fraternity house, the station over time increased its power to cover most of campus due to listener requests.

The FCC, while amazed at the quality of the equipment, program material and signal strength, took a dim view of WGAM interfering with the signal from an amateur radio in the local area. So sadly, WGAM signed off the air in the mid-1950s.

**Al Banholzer, BSME '57**  
**Seattle**

I would like to add my congratulations to the

many complimentary letters you've received on the publication of your top-quality magazine.

I very much enjoyed the article on WOUB, but I also missed seeing more on Vincent Jukes, the station's guiding light when I was a student there.

While much emphasis has been placed on the news the station presented — George Diab and I had a weekly news commentary — I also enjoyed "Radio Play Production," which Jukes directed. Each student had to be involved with radio drama, one week handling music cues, the next sound effects.

While I majored in radio journalism, I spent 13 years in newspaper work before settling in to a 30-year career in public relations with Rockwell International. These elements contributed to my career, and I will always be grateful for the learning experience at Ohio University.

**Dent Williams, BSJ '49**  
**Reynoldsburg, Ohio**

I read with great interest the article on the 50th anniversary of WOUB, but I have to tell you that some of us go back further than that.

From 1943 to 1945, I spent all my spare time at WOUB. It was just wired to the dorms, but we spent a few hours a day doing news, music and even skits. Would you believe that the few broadcast classes that existed were under dramatic arts? I took them all, so I ended up with a bachelor of fine arts degree.

After graduation, I worked in radio in Columbus for seven years and eventually spent 18 years at the CBS television affiliate in Albuquerque as public affairs director and host of two shows.

Thanks to WOUB and Ohio University for a great start.

**Jeanne Young Wayland, BFA '45**  
**Albuquerque, N.M.**

## A happy ending in store for the Athena

**Y**ou remember the Athena Cinema: The streetfront ticket booth, the small lobby with its tiny concession stand, the smell of 85 years' worth of popcorn permeating the building and the long, dark theaters' sticky floors.

For a few weeks this past fall, it seemed as if future Ohio University students wouldn't have those memories. The Athena's owner, Lancaster businessman William Duerson, announced he was going to sell the Court Street landmark to a business that didn't plan to use it as a theater.

"I couldn't believe it," says senior Jane Gewehr, a regular moviegoer. "It would have been a big loss for Athens."

Ohio University agreed, although not at first. Officials rejected Duerson's initial sales pitch. But when the Athena's fate seemed likely to mimic that of the Varsity Theater — which became a Taco Bell in 1989 — they reconsidered, says Assistant Vice President for Facilities Planning John Kotowski.

"We feel very strongly about the diversity of opportunities in and around Athens," Kotowski says. "Another restaurant or bar wasn't going to give that diversity to our students and staff."



The Ohio University-owned Athena will be renovated this summer.

After another prospect's offer fell through, the University signed a purchase agreement to buy the Athena.

A committee headed by Vice President for Student Affairs Michael Sostarich, MFA '71, is considering uses for the property. While it will continue to serve as a community movie house, the building also will help the campus deal with classroom crunches. The Athena's three 200-seat theaters can house some of the large lecture classes that will be displaced when Bentley Hall closes for renovations in 2002.

The building also will continue to be one venue for the annual Athens International Film and Video Festival.

"We want to make it available to groups to show films," Sostarich says, noting that the University might move the Midnight Movies series to the Athena from Templeton-Blackburn Alumni Memorial Auditorium.

A \$1.4 million renovation will give the theater an overdue facelift. The building, more than a century old, was converted from a vaudeville house to a movie theater around 1915.

The lobby will be remodeled, and the building will get a new roof, more projection equipment, better soundproofing and upgraded electrical and plumbing systems. The theater will close in June for renovations and reopen at the start of fall quarter.

While Jane Gewehr won't be around to enjoy the new Athena — she's graduating in June — she's glad it will be there for other moviegoers.

"It's especially great for first-year students who can't have cars on campus," she says. "And it gives an alcohol-free option for entertainment."

— Corinne Colbert

## Algae, sunlight help clean the coal industry

**A** tiny organism may help solve a big pollution problem for the coal industry. Scientists at Ohio University are studying how algae and sunlight, through photosynthesis, can inexpensively absorb some of the carbon dioxide emissions produced when coal is burned by power plants.

The technique would work like this: As carbon dioxide exhaust moves toward the smokestacks, it passes through tubes of running water, creating bicarbonates that bubble in the water like soda pop. The water then flows through a bioreactor that contains a series of screens on which algae or a related organism called cyanobacteria grow with the aid of sunlight.

"The algae basically drink the

bicarbonates," says Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering David Bayless, who is coordinating the project with Assistant Professor of Environmental and Plant Biology Morgan Vis and Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering Gregory Kremer.

The researchers recently received a \$1.07 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to develop their prototype system on a larger scale. First, they must determine the optimal amount of nutrients and sunlight the algae need as well



Algae could diminish power plant pollution.

as what type of algae or cyanobacteria will grow best, says Vis, who specializes in algae research.

Algae is not only cheap and plentiful, notes Bayless, but could be collected from the power plants for use in agriculture. "Once the algae is grown, if it can't be used as fuel or a hydrogen source, it can be used as a fertilizer or soil stabilizer," he says.

Bayless estimates that an average-size power plant could process 20 percent of its carbon dioxide emissions and produce more than 200,000 tons of algae per year.

— Andrea Gibson



## Setting the stage for social change

Alex Fox is unsure whether to list his membership in the Ohio University Gay-Straight Alliance on his résumé. Laurencio Lara Almodovar is concerned that his Spanish accent will put him at a disadvantage with white interviewers. And 40-year-old Toni Bolton, despite her 4.0 GPA, worries how employers will perceive her Appalachian twang and lack of work experience after 20 years of raising children.

"Alex" is graduate student Jason Weber. "Laurencio" is grad student Hector Blanco Ponce. And "Toni" is Assistant Professor Ann Rathbun. All are members of an interactive performance troupe, "Bridging

the Diversity Gap," that educates audiences about discrimination issues.

Performing in campus classrooms, members act out scenarios involving ethical dilemmas: A "welcome to the company" brochure that advises



"Bridging the Diversity Gap" members perform on campus.

employees from other countries to prevent bad breath by avoiding spicy foods, a human resources coordinator who Americanizes international

names, a worker who makes slurs about Ohio's rural residents. The plays are followed by discussions about ways to deal with the situations.

"We have a changing cast, a chang-

ing audience whose questions steer the play's direction and changing sponsors whose various concerns are woven into the script," says Director Kathy Devecka.

About 40 campus and community members participate in the program, developed in 1998 and supported by United Campus Ministry, Hillel: The Jewish Foundation of Southeast Ohio, the Max Family Foundation and the colleges of Communication, Education and Arts and Sciences.

Former troupe member Lynn Klyde-Silverstein, PHD '01, says her experiences have helped her to broach these issues with her students.

"It allows people to discuss difficult issues in a safe environment," says Klyde-Silverstein, who teaches at the University of Northern Colorado.

To learn more, call United Campus Ministry, (740) 593-7301.

— Anne McGuinness Keyser

## Take the high-speed road to Athens

Alumni are just one click away from viewing new campus buildings, checking out the latest image on the graffiti wall and hearing local musicians perform live.

Advanced Web journalism students recently launched a new Web site, *Athensi.com*, that provides up-to-date information on what's happening at Ohio University and in the community. The site is a compilation of material from community news sources, including ACTV-7 News, *The Athens Messenger*, *The Athens News*, *The Post*, WOUB, *ohiobobcats.com* and Ohio University Media Services. Visitors can link to community calendars, current events, weather information and a chat room.

Professor of Journalism Robert

Stewart, who taught the fall quarter class that launched *Athensi.com*, says the site is useful for folks who live in Athens, are planning to move here or want to stay updated on local news, including alumni and students' parents.

*Athensi.com* also provides a glimpse of campus life, including video and audio from live "Scripps Studio Sessions" concerts, daily images of the graffiti wall and "Global Bobcat" profiles on international student-athletes.

Students in Stewart's advanced Web journalism class are responsible for updating the site.

"It was interesting to be there for the planning stages and then to finally see the site launched," says broadcast major Stacy Puzo. "It is a good balance of information between the community and the University."

— Kara Renee



## 'CAT FACTS

How many feet of Ethernet cable did it take to give residence hall dwellers high-speed Internet access?

What college, when it was formed in 1886, was named the Normal Department?

How many issues of *The Post* are printed daily?

What regional campus recently built 50,000-square-foot health and physical education center?

When did the Oasis restaurant at University Terrace and Park Place open?

How many students volunteer in the community each year?

The Athens International Film and Video Festival has been around for how many years?

How many pipes are in the pipe organ installed in Galbreath Chapel in 1998?

What is the most common flower on campus?

How many students are working toward bachelor's degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences?

(Answers on Page 8.)



# Just reaching his peak

An Ohio University sweatshirt draped over his shoulders and Nelsonville's Rocky boots on his feet, Geography Professor Hugh Bloemer watched the sun rise from the summit of Africa's famed Mount Kilimanjaro on July 5, 1999. It was an unbelievable experience, especially at 30 degrees below zero, and one he would have again 14 months later.

"When I first told my doctor I was going to do this, he said, 'In your dreams.' I said I would send him a postcard."

That postcard hangs in his doubting doc's office.

Bloemer's first trek was made partly in preparation for the second, and

both were tied to his research on the effects of ecotourism on high mountain environments. A member of the faculty for 30 years, Bloemer was scoping out Africa's highest point — in north-east Tanzania near the Kenyan border — as an optional field trip for his colleagues in the High Mountain Remote Sensing Cartography Group. Eight people attending the group's September 2000 conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, took Bloemer up on his offer to lead the way.

"I would not encourage anyone to try this next week or next month," says Bloemer, an asthma sufferer who was 59 when he made the first trip. "It is not something that someone my age should attempt without proper preparation."

With the help of Tom Murray, coordinator of clinical exercise physiology, and his wife, Debbie Murray, a dietitian at Hocking College, Bloemer trained for seven months for the 1999 journey. His regimen included daily aerobics, exercise, racquetball and a carefully prescribed diet.

An extinct volcano, Kilimanjaro rises to snowcapped peaks, Kibo at 19,340 feet above sea level and Mawenzi at 17,564 feet. Bloemer made it to Kibo's peak both times, creating a

serpentine path through volcanic ash — an experience the professor compared to walking in soft, ankle-deep sand. Both trips took five days (three and a half up and one and a half down) and dissected each of the mountain's climatic regions, from tropical rain forest to arctic ice-cap conditions.

His first climbing partners, a couple in their twenties from Norway, were members of the Norwegian military. They were accompanied by two guides, five porters — each of whom carried about 60 pounds on his head — and a cook, also all in their twenties. The

next year, the nine-member cartography group had 30 support personnel and the luxury of reaching the summit in balmy temperatures of zero to 10 degrees.

"We were interested in the impact of tourism on vegetation and erosion in such areas and what if any positive impact ecotourism has," Bloemer says of the cartography group. "One of the most negative aspects is the deforestation that has occurred. It's a fragile environment in the first place, and it may take 100 years to rejuvenate what has been destroyed."

Since Jan. 1, 2000, the Tanzanian government banned climbers' use of wood from the sparsely forested mid-to upper sections of the mountain for campfires. Porters now carry alternative fuels, although the negligent use of kerosene and other fuels is posing new environmental problems. On the plus side, the more than 15,000 people who attempt the journey up Kilimanjaro each year help the region's poor economy.

Chances are Bloemer won't be among those climbers again, though. He says he's already hung up those Rocky boots, and he grabs the OU sweatshirt for more leisurely pursuits.

— Richard Heck



Research and personal reward has pushed Professor Hugh Bloemer to climb Mount Kilimanjaro twice.

## First Russ Prize awarded

Two researchers who invented the human heart pacemaker, Earl Bakken and Wilson Greatbatch, are the first recipients of The Fritz J. and Dolores H. Russ Prize, one of the top two engineering awards in the world. Ohio University and the National Academy of



Engineering announced the winners Feb. 1 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

The prize, which will be awarded biennially, was established in 1999 through a multi-million-dollar endowment to Ohio University by alumnus Fritz

Russ, BSEE '42 and HON '75, and his wife, Dolores. The award recognizes outstanding achievement in an engineering field of critical importance that contributes to improving the human condition. Bakken and Greatbatch will visit campus in the coming year to lecture and work with students.

Stories about the Russ Prize appeared in *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *The Washington Times*, *The Buffalo News*, *The Columbus Dispatch*, *The Dayton Daily News* and on Fox News.

## Players hit world rink

Four Ohio University ice hockey players were members of the U.S. National Collegiate Team for the 2001 Winter World University Games in Zakopane, Poland, in February. The team consisted of 22 players chosen from the more than 200 teams that make up the American Collegiate Hockey Association.

Ohio University sent senior defenseman Jack Pepper of Athens; senior forward Mike Perino of Ann Arbor, Mich.; sophomore defenseman Shane Print of Cleveland; and senior forward Sean Kass of Taylor, Mich. During the two-week trip, each player kept a portfolio documenting his experiences and spent at least two hours a day studying and participating in field trips.

The Bobcat players were instrumental in the U.S. team's only win, a 4-2 victory over heavily favored Russia. Kass scored two goals and Perino added another goal for the upset.

## University buys Bromley

The University has purchased Bromley Hall, a privately owned nine-story South Congress Street residence hall, and will use it to house upperclassmen beginning in the fall.

The \$6 million purchase from the Bromley Group in Champaign, Ill., will create additional space for students as the University renovates all of its residence halls during the next decade. The hall, built in 1964, also will continue to be used for professional conferences, special programming and temporary housing for guests and employees.

The 158,688-square-foot building has 520 beds and amenities not found in other campus residence halls, such as private bathrooms, a swimming pool and an exercise room. It also has air conditioning, Internet capabilities and a food service component.

## Modest mentor earns students' respect

In a big family, there's no room for a big head, jokes David Descutner, the youngest of five children. That explains why he's ambivalent about accolades and other types of public recognition, even photos.

Alumni, though, were happy to point with pride to the professor of interpersonal communication this past fall when he became the first recipient of the College of Communication's L.J. Hortin Faculty Mentor Award. Descutner was nominated by former students who've known him as a professor, interim director and graduate studies director in the School of Interpersonal Communication.

Created and supported by Tom Kirby, BSJ '55, the annual award is named for Loren Joseph Hortin, professor of journalism from 1947 to 1967.

"Dr. Hortin showed me how to tap my greatest potential, release it and nurture it in others," says Kirby, who wants to recognize other teachers who go that extra mile by mentoring their students.

Descutner would deny he has done anything "extra" during his 22 years of teaching at Ohio University. He would say that as a 48-year-old academic, he does the same things he did as a 10-year-old on the playgrounds of Midland, Pa.: He makes friends across racial, class and gender lines and cares a lot about the people in his life.

In his childhood town near Pittsburgh, Descutner noticed early on that his African-American buddies were punished more frequently and severely, rarely called upon in class and not encouraged to attend college. Through his sisters and mother, he became aware of similar, if subtler, injustices that women face.

Descutner came to realize that

education is the best medium for challenging prejudice. He inspires students to reflect critically on the ways that social ideas, prejudices and motives shape culture, to be skeptical of themselves and open to others' views and to consider how

their everyday actions contribute to or challenge cultural patterns.

Through the years, his impact on students has earned him the Provost's Teaching Recognition Award, two University Professor Awards, the Honors Tutorial College's Outstanding Tutor Award and four nominations for the Outstanding Graduate Faculty honor.

But it is his students' success, not his own, that thrills Descutner.

"When I see students about to make big mistakes, I tell them," he says. "You learn nothing but resentment from failure, and it matters to me that they do well once they get out there."

—Anne McGinness Kever



David Descutner

### How to nominate

**Alumni can nominate a former or current College of Communication faculty member for the 2001 L.J. Hortin Faculty Mentor Award by submitting a nomination letter to Dean Kathy Krendl by Oct. 10. Write to her at RTVC 483-B, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701 or e-mail her at [krendl@ohio.edu](mailto:krendl@ohio.edu). Letters should explain how the professor was a personal and professional mentor in and out of the classroom.**

### 'Cat Facts answers

**1.** One million feet. **2.** The College of Education. **3.** About 14,000. **4.** Ohio University Eastern in St. Clairsville. **5.** In 1973. It was a laundry for 25 years before that. **6.** About 3,500 students volunteer close to 120,000 hours. **7.** 28 years. **8.** 1,200 pipes. **9.** Waxleaf begonias. **10.** More than 4,000.



Children take a peek at the playground of the new Child Development Center.

## Kids gets new digs

Where there once were horses now is horseplay. Ohio University's Child Development Center, located in Putnam Hall for nearly three decades, has moved to a new location in a renovated horse barn on The Ridges.

Rustic stables have been transformed into nine modern classrooms, an art studio, a multipurpose room and playgrounds. An expansion has provided room for a reception area, meeting room, staff offices, library, cubbyholes and other features.

The \$2.6 million project, completed earlier this year, boosts the center's space from 8,800 to 13,800 square feet.

"The Ridges offers a very natural setting with limited traffic, so the children can go on hikes and go sled-dog," says Center Director Cathy Waller. "It also has a very appealing look with lots of natural light."

The center offers day care for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years, and by fall, enrollment should increase from about 60 children to nearly 120. The new location and expanded enrollment will allow more opportunities for education majors to get hands-on training at the center. This year, about 800 students in early childhood education, physical therapy, music therapy and music education received field experience at the facility.

The barn, built in the 1870s, housed workhorses used for farm chores by staff at the former Athens Mental Health Center. Efforts were made to maintain the architectural integrity of the building, including the use of arched windows and neutral interior colors.

—Jack Jeffery

# Project could lead to new businesses

A new project designed to move research from the lab to the marketplace could lead to new products for use in health care, agriculture and other industries — and new regional businesses to make them.

Ohio University's Edison Biotechnology Institute has joined forces with Battelle, a Columbus-based international research and development organization, to identify faculty discoveries and technologies and target them for commercialization.

The initiative will foster economic development in the region and benefit researchers, says David Wight, director of EBI.

"It is truly exciting to have the opportunity to combine the discoveries of University research with recognized business development expertise..."

The joint effort was announced in late fall by President Robert Glidden,

who cited the project as another way the University can assist faculty in their research endeavors.

"We are very interested in supporting our faculty as they work to move their ideas and innovations in a direction that leads to new products and that have a direct and positive impact on the health and well-being of people, the environment and the economy," Glidden says.

EBI was created in 1984 to foster economic development by aggressively pursuing basic life sciences research in areas with commercial potential and transferring new technologies and discoveries into the marketplace.

Ohio University and EBI scientists have been instrumental in developing and protecting technologies that have led to the creation of six start-up companies.

— David Wight,  
director of EBI

— Kelli Whitlock

"It is truly exciting to have the opportunity to combine the discoveries of University research with recognized business development expertise..."

## Fur Peace Ranch jams get radio time

Jorma Kaukonen's life is fairly serene compared to his days as a founding member of the 1960s rock band Jefferson Airplane. His southeastern Ohio ranch provides a quiet location to teach guitar and jam with fellow musicians.

The only folks who hear him perform these days are those who visit his Meigs County homestead, the Fur Peace Ranch, to take lessons or attend a performance in his concert hall — until now.

A new Ohio University Public Radio series, "Live From the Fur Peace Ranch," features Kaukonen in concert with talented blues, folk, country and rock musicians. The show, broadcast at 8 p.m. every other Sunday, is a pilot program that WOUB producers eventually hope to distribute to a national

audience. In the meantime, replays of concerts can be heard on the Web at [www.woub.org/furpeace/](http://www.woub.org/furpeace/).

The Fur Peace Ranch, conceived in 1989 by Kaukonen and his wife, Vanessa, offers an instructional facility, restaurant, concert hall and conference center. Kaukonen and visiting musicians provide instruction on guitar and other instruments.

Before helping to form Jefferson Airplane in 1965, Kaukonen had performed with such rock icons as Janis Joplin, Jerry Garcia and Jimi Hendrix. In 1970, while still with Jefferson Airplane, Kaukonen and the group's bass guitarist, Jack Casady, created the band Hot Tuna, which continues to produce new work.

— Melissa Rake



Sharon  
Stephens Brehm

### Provost Sharon Stephens

Brehm has been named chancellor of Indiana University's Bloomington campus and vice president for academic affairs of the eight-campus Indiana University system.

Brehm, who has served as provost since 1996, has focused on a broad-based program of academic excellence. Areas addressed include enhancing undergraduate research opportunities, creating new teaching awards, increasing scholarships to attract high-achieving students, promoting honors programs and helping to strengthen graduate education. Her most recent initiative seeks to hire at least 30 new faculty during the next three years.

Brehm will remain on campus through spring quarter, assuming her new position July 1. Associate Provost for Graduate Studies Gary Schumacher will serve as interim provost until Brehm's successor is named.

Patricia Bayer Richard, dean of University College since 1992 and associate provost for undergraduate studies since 1998, is stepping down in August.

Richard joined the University in 1972 as a faculty member in political science, becoming a full professor in 1990. She also has served as director of the political science graduate program and the Center for Political Communication. Richard plans to continue teaching in the Political Science Department one quarter of each academic year.



Patricia Bayer  
Richard



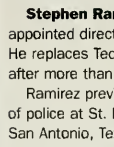
Delbert Meyer

### Delbert Meyer

retired in January after 15 years as dean of the Chillicothe Campus. Under Meyer's leadership, enrollment increased by more than 600 students and several degree programs were added.

Meyer also has overseen the development of three new educational centers on campus: the Environmental Training and Research Center, the Southern Ohio Police Training Institute and the Deaf Studies Resource Center.

Associate Dean Steve Phillips is serving as interim dean until a search is complete.



Stephen  
Ramirez

### Stephen Ramirez

has been appointed director of campus safety. He replaces Ted Jones, who retired after more than 12 years in the post.

Ramirez previously served as chief of police at St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas. His other positions have included director of the Department of Safety and Security at Palm Beach (Fla.) Atlantic College and patrolman, criminal investigator and shift commander with the Juno Beach, Fla., Police Department.



# Destination: Discovery

Exploring Ohio University's international role

By Melissa Rake & John Borhaug

Whether they're in Germany, Ecuador or Athens, Ohio, USA, students are learning more about themselves and their world than ever before.



Open a world atlas. Pink, green, purple, orange and yellow lines trail the asymmetric edges of countries large and small. Thousands of bold black dots representing the Earth's most populous cities fight for their rightful place on the surface of this crowded collage of diverse nations.

Now look at a map of southeastern Ohio. Small towns interrupt miles of loosely populated land near the twisting Ohio border. Bright colors trace the Appalachian Highway snaking through rural communities. You'll find Athens and Ohio University in tiny letters amid sweeping patches of green symbolizing the dense Wayne National Forest.

Put these two maps side-by-side, and the only correlation is the cartographer's color palette. But Ohio University's relationship with the rest of the world can't be gleaned from maps. It only can be told through the rich experiences of students and faculty who have crossed thousands of miles and myriad time zones to make connections across the globe.



## A brave beginning

Ohio University began looking at global issues with a curious eye long before the Soviet Union's 1957 launch of the world's first man-made satellite, Sputnik, prompted an embarrassed U.S. government to begin investing money in science and international studies programs. The institution set into motion this long-standing commitment in 1895 with the graduation of Japanese native Saki Taro Murayama, the University's first international student.

Global conflict prevented the University from creating solid links with higher education institutions abroad from the early 1900s to the end of World War II. But during the early 1950s, Ohio University President John Baker initiated the campus' first scholarships for international students, including some from communist countries. Baker hoped the scholarships would demonstrate that people could live and learn together with mutual understanding despite nations' ideological differences. Soon after, Baker was selected by President Eisenhower to serve as the chief U.S. delegate to the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

"During the McCarthy era, we were offering scholarships to students from East Germany, Yugoslavia, Poland and other communist countries," says Associate Provost for International Programs Josep Rota. "It was a daring act for any university during that time."

Baker's successors forwarded the agenda: Vernon Alden, who learned to speak Japanese while in the U.S. Navy during WWII, oversaw the creation of Ohio University's Center for International Studies in 1964 and, soon after, programs in African, Southeast Asian and Latin American studies. Charles Ping, who expanded international programs during his tenure from 1975 to 1994, is regarded as one of the nation's most authoritative speakers on why it's important to globalize college campuses. And in his seven years as president, Robert Glidden has furthered international cooperation by establishing new links with colleges and universities overseas and maintaining close ties with alumni around the globe.

This constant vigilance has pro-

duced relationships with 160 higher education institutions worldwide, clearing the way for international students to study here and creating paths for U.S. students to earn academic credit in other countries.

"Since 1946, we've had presidents who've been very interested in and committed to international education," Glidden says, "and that certainly has contributed to our success today."

## Injecting a global view

Associate Professor of Sociology and Anthropology Ann Freter always is thrilled to see students from other countries on her class roster. A professor who thrives on vigorous classroom discussion, Freter looks forward to international students injecting a unique cultural perspective.

"Students from different countries can bring a viewpoint to the discussion that I oftentimes can't," she says. "It's good for American students to interact, laugh and sweat out midterms with people from different cultures. Being in the classroom together is a major bridge-builder."

This academic year, nearly 1,200 students from about 100 countries are part of the Athens campus culture, living in residence halls, studying in Alden Library, writing for *The Post*, serving on Graduate Student Senate and socializing at The Front Room.

"International students provide us with a diverse environment that helps our American students better understand global issues," Rota says. "And when they return home, they take with them an appreciation of American values, culture and society that contributes to improved international relations, business relationships and cultural ties."

Besides contributing to the multicultural landscape of campus, international students aid the region economically. According to the Institute of International Education, the estimated 500,000 international students studying in the United States added more than \$12 billion to the U.S. economy during the 1999-2000 acad-



Education abroad student Mark Puskas photographs the Volksheldenkmal, a monument in Leipzig, Germany.

emic year in money spent on tuition, living expenses and related costs. In the Athens area, the impact is estimated at \$19 million annually.

Degrees from U.S. institutions are competitively sought because of the schools' reputation for quality. In fact, nearly 150 current and past foreign heads of state made their first visits to the United States as students, including British Prime Minister Tony Blair, French Premier Lionel Jospin and former Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo.

Graduate student Sumanth Botanna hopes his Ohio University education leads to a top software programming position in his native India.

"A degree from Ohio University will definitely give me an edge," says Botanna, who is studying computer science. "I was working for a company in India when an American client told the company that it would be a big advantage to have someone with a master's degree from the United States, so I guess you could say I took their advice."

Other students from developing or recently independent nations want to use their degrees as tools to help strengthen their countries.

"I hope to be able to go back and find positions of influence and teaching so I can share what I have learned and help Macedonia with my knowledge," says Bisera Gjosevska, one of three students from Macedonia who this fall received four-year undergraduate scholarships to study in the College of Business.

International students often become some of the institution's most loyal alumni. When Glidden meets with members of the German

*Continued on Page 14*

## Making connections

More than 1,100 students from about 100 nations study on the Athens campus each year. The number of Ohio University students taking part in education abroad has climbed to 600 in recent years and included experiences in about 50 countries.

Countries in **gold** represent those from which we draw students, while those in **red** provide education abroad opportunities for Athens students. In cases where both scenarios exist, the nations are listed in **green**.



"Ohio University is very prestigious, and by getting my degree from here, my chances of getting a good job are high. Ohio University awarded me a scholarship and holds many challenges for me." — **Sophomore Zana Zakaria, a telecommunications major from Malaysia**



"Last spring quarter I studied in Tours, France. I learned about myself and discovered new sides of my personality that I didn't know before." — **Junior Francesca Mignosa, an international studies and modern languages major from Italy**





"Learning the language was not the most difficult thing about coming here. It is learning how people interact and communicate.

Everyone is nice and friendly, but the ways of speaking and behaving are different from home." — **Graduate student Zhou Li, an educational administration major from China**



"Once we set foot on African soil, we received such an overwhelming reception. I knew then that I would have the most fantastic time of my life and not miss home one bit." —

**Junior Amy Adelman, an education major from Bexley, Ohio, who studied in Swaziland**



"It was an easy decision

to come here. Through Ohio University's Tropical Disease Institute in Ecuador, I want to help improve the life standard in Third World countries." — **Graduate student Marco Vinicio Neira, an international development studies and biological sciences major from Ecuador**





*Continued from Page 11*

Chapter Serving Europe, he is surprised to find graduates traveling from all corners of Europe to reminiscence about their college days and flip through photos he's taken of campus. Alexander Sascha Tung, MFA '94, co-chair of the chapter, acknowledges the powerful bond that international alumni share.

"I try to think about ways to keep in touch with Ohio University, which I have come to cherish," says Tung, who has returned to campus twice as a guest speaker. "Studying at Ohio University and living in Athens was one of the most important experiences of my life."

## Voyages of self-discovery

Stephanie Sick harbors a fierce addiction to passports, planes and intriguing places.

"Once you start traveling abroad, you don't want to stop," says Sick, a journalism major who spent fall quarter at Ohio University's Ohio-Leipzig European Center in Germany.

"Being in an unfamiliar environment really makes you think about who you truly are, away from all the cultural, familial and social factors that influence you at home."

The Leipzig center was developed two years ago through the University's outreach efforts in Germany. As many as 50 Ohio University students can spend a quarter fulfilling general education requirements in classes taught by Athens campus faculty and English-speaking professors at the University of Leipzig.

"There's no replacement for learning about a country's culture than spending time with its people, eating its food, following — or breaking — its rules and seeing its hardships and triumphs," says Sick, who plans to return to Europe next year. "You just can't replicate that experience."

Connie Perdreau hears similar comments from students whose study abroad experiences have ranged from teaching in Swaziland to painting in Bali.

"So many students have said it is a life-changing experience for them," says Perdreau, director of the University's Education Abroad Program. "We've been sending students abroad since the late 1960s,

and we've found that not only does it expose them to another culture, but they become instantly more attractive to potential employers."

Last school year, more than 600 OU students earned academic credit overseas, with about half of them receiving some financial assistance. Although the percentage of Ohio University students who study abroad is higher than the national average, administrators want to double the total by 2004.

Students can choose from more than 50 programs encompassing nearly every major, and more options are added every year.

For example, the campus now is working to become the first American university to establish formal ties with institutions in Croatia. And in April, the College of Business announced plans to establish a center for economics and business education at the University of Pecs in Hungary. That pact builds on a relationship that has existed since 1991, when the two universities established a faculty exchange program.

Another initiative of the early 1990s, the University's Institute for International Journalism headed by Terry Anderson, provides students training in newsrooms from Ireland to Israel. Equally intriguing offerings take students to Rome to study archaeology, to Paris and London to immerse themselves in the fashion industry and to the Bahamas to research tropical ecology.

Rather than focusing mainly on language proficiency, as most study abroad programs did in the past, today's options impart diverse professional and cultural lessons. For instance, French majors traditionally have had opportunities to study in France, but only recently have Ohio University theater majors traveled to England to learn about British drama.

"As these programs expand, so do the opportunities for students to encounter other possibilities, other ways of living," says College of Arts and Sciences Dean Leslie Fleming, who spent time studying abroad as an undergraduate, including three weeks picking potatoes at a work camp in Poland. "Who am I?

What are my skills? What do I believe spiritually? What do I think of my family?" are all questions that students traditionally ask themselves during their college years. Education abroad gives students new options to think about."

Some students are gaining more than academic credit as a result of



Macedonia natives (from left) Lilian Kandikjan, Trajanka Zlatanovska and Biserka Gjosevska received four-year scholarships to study in the College of Business.

their travels. Assistant Professor of Behavioral Ecology Molly Morris regularly takes undergraduates to rural areas of Mexico to collect specimens for research the students conduct on fish mating behavior. Faculty also are encouraged to engage in research and teach at universities overseas. When Professor of Physics and Astronomy Kenneth Hicks spent three months in 1999 teaching at Chubu University in Japan, he gained an appreciation for the transition international students face when they come to the States.

"As professors, I'm not sure we always understand what our international students go through to get used to a different culture," says Hicks, one of 27 visiting professors from Ohio University to teach at Chubu.

## An ambitious next step

With new calls for the United States to internationalize American education and promote worldwide literacy, more colleges and universities are creating innovative programs designed to give both college and K-12 students a wider global perspective.

Two Ohio University programs, African Studies and Southeast Asian Studies, recently received \$1.8 million in funding and prestigious designations as National Resource Cen-





Rick Falica



Ann Arbor Miller

**ABOVE:** A Turkish performance group participates in the annual International Street Fair. **LEFT:** Athens resident Martha Gonzales brings a Spanish flair to an international music and dance extravaganza on campus earlier this year.

ters from the U.S. Department of Education because of the groundbreaking programs they offer. Keeping company with such schools as Stanford, Yale, UCLA and Michigan, the programs are among the top 10 of their type in the nation.

"We want to undo some of the simplistic stereotypes about these world areas and help people understand different topics, such as the role of Islam in Southeast Asia," says Southeast Asian Studies Director Elizabeth Collins. "People can no longer live as if the rest of the world doesn't exist."

Southeast Asian Studies and African Studies promote international education across campus by, among other things, introducing world issues into social work classes, funding undergraduate research on the plight of street children in Indonesia and creating new language courses in Thai and SiSwati. The graduate programs are just two

of five offered by the Center for International Studies, which has about 160 grad students from some 35 countries.

The number of undergraduates majoring in international studies has doubled during the past two years to 100.

Ohio University also has become a model in other areas: The Global Learning Community, an academic certificate program in which students live together and collaborate as consultants to international companies, is the first of its kind in the nation. In an unprecedented move,

the College of Osteopathic Medicine has partnered with universities in China to integrate Western and traditional Chinese medicines. Alden Library's Southeast Asia Collection, one of the most comprehensive in the nation, attracts researchers interested in the repository's more than 200,000 documents, from Indonesian newspapers to Malaysian government publications. And the percentage of Ohio University graduates who enter the Peace Corps is among the highest in the country, ranking 21st in the nation this year.

"Through these types of initiatives and efforts to bolster the number of international students and education abroad opportunities, Ohio University is positioning itself as a leader in international education — and perhaps claiming a greater presence on the map.

*Melissa Rake is assistant editor of Ohio Today. John Borhaug, MSJ '01, is a student from Norway who works in University Media Services.*

## Immersed in another land — and learning to love it

By John Borhaug



**M**y fascination with America began in 1988 when my parents took me to California for the best vacation of my life. It was fantastic — the homes, the pools, the palms. Everything was so much

cheaper than in my native Norway, and everything was bigger, too, from the cars to the pinecones in Yosemite National Park. Ever since, America has carried an intangible attraction for me, an allure that's been slightly easier to define since I arrived at Ohio University this past fall to begin my master's degree in journalism.

During my time here, I've come to love the American mentality. It's an amazing combination of greatness and modesty highlighted by a natural friendliness offered for no other reason than to be friendly. But I guess the real appeal for me is the dream, the image of the land of opportunity, and the rewards gained from working hard.

There are a few things, however, that I don't like. It's annoying that some Americans don't have a clue about anything outside the United States. The American way of thinking is, understandably, so American and can lack an outside perspective. Then again, Americans often are the first to say it is a shame. I find this quality appealing because I have yet to come across any other nationality that so willingly and constructively accepts criticism.

Once I graduate, I intend to repeat a trip across the country that I took during winter break. I traveled through 29 states, visiting such places as Niagara Falls, Nashville, the Florida Keys, Oklahoma City and Los Angeles. But this time, I want to spend six months on the road instead of six weeks. After that, I hope to get an Associated Press internship, and then I must serve a mandated yearlong stint in Norway's National Service.

Having earned an undergraduate degree in June 2000 in England and traveled extensively, I know how rewarding it is to adopt a perspective beyond that of the little area in which you were raised. Once you have gained an international awareness, you see things differently. I've learned more about myself in my four years away than I did during my 19 years at home. Other cultures have so much to offer, and I hope I never grow tired of learning about and experiencing them.

### Staying in touch

The online department's website and e-mail listservs are available. These resources should send you letters, articles, recordings, photos, and contacts, just to name a few. You can also find more information on the website.

The department also is planning a series of workshops and seminars for students in the United States, primarily at major universities in the Pacific Northwest. Students will have the chance to meet with faculty and students from other universities.

For more information, contact the department's website at [www.ohio.edu/~intl](http://www.ohio.edu/~intl) or e-mail at [intl@ohio.edu](mailto:intl@ohio.edu). You can also contact the department at [www.ohio.edu/~intl](http://www.ohio.edu/~intl).

# The powers that be

## Alumni command influence in Ohio circles

By Jess Goode and Mary Alice Casey

**I**n the 32 years he spent in the Ohio House of Representatives, Patrick Sweeney encountered graduates of one particular university again and again. "They're like land mines," Sweeney jokes of the prevalence of Ohio University faithful in Columbus.

Albeit a colorful way to sum up the trend, Sweeney isn't far off. Dozens of alumni hold positions of power in the state, serving in the Legislature, in state agencies and for leading lobbying firms. Among the most influential are the four profiled here: Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives Larry Householder, Ohio Board of Regents Chair Jeanette Grasselli Brown, Ohio House Finance Committee Chair John Carey and Ohio Senate Chief of Staff Teri Geiger.

"This has been at least a 25-year phenomenon, although we are at somewhat of a peak right now," says Mark Weinberg, a political science professor and director of the University's George V. Voinovich Center for Leadership and Public Affairs.

He attributes the healthy headcount of alumni in state government in part to the "nature of the individuals" drawn to Ohio University: "They're

dedicated to public service, talented and just nice people. They want to help others."

Aside from the obvious benefits for students seeking jobs and internships in politics and public service, the impressive network of alumni provides the University with a steady stream of guest lecturers and worthwhile advice on public affairs strategies.

And, observes Sweeney, who left the Legislature in 1998 and now teaches political science at Cleveland State and does consulting work, the Bobcat team is "high-class and always top-notch in terms of talent and skill."

### Speaking with authority

The most prominent Ohio University graduate in state government also is the state's second-most powerful official: Speaker of the House Larry Householder.

Householder, AB '82, hires the entire House staff, hands out committee assignments and chairmanships and heads the rules committee, which determines what legislation gets to the floor for a vote.

The speaker credits his solid academic training in Athens for playing a role

in his meteoric rise in Ohio politics. He says history classes in particular have helped him put things in perspective and make good decisions.

After graduation, he started his own insurance agency, which he ran for 18 years. Then, in 1994, he was elected to the Perry County Board of Commissioners. In 1996, he defeated an incumbent and took a seat in the Ohio House of Representatives. And this year, after only two terms, his colleagues elected him speaker of the house.

Householder is focused on using what he learned in college and as a lifelong Perry County resident to solve some of the state's most difficult problems.

"The quality of education in Ohio is at the top (of my priorities)," he says.

"Right behind that is the equality of education. I have a very good understanding of the issue because I graduated from a poorer school district."

Householder also says he wants to improve Ohio's higher education system and help bring more good-paying jobs to the state.

That's an ambitious agenda for a new speaker, but Householder notes that conventional wisdom commonly underestimates him.

"I've always been running up the mountain, but it's made my legs stronger," he says.



Larry Householder



## Advancing education

Jeanette Grasselli Brown does few things on a small scale.

When she arrived at Ohio University in 1946 as a freshman from Cleveland's inner city, she began a lifelong association that has produced one of the University's most ardent champions.

When she took a job with Standard Oil (later BP America) as a 23-year-old chemist, she embarked on a 38-year career that led to her appointment as director of corporate research, environmental and analytical sciences, making her the oil giant's highest-ranking female employee.

So when she was named to the Ohio Board of Regents in 1995, there was little doubt she would be a relentless advocate for the state's colleges and universities. In December, she was elected chair of the nine-member board, which helps direct Ohio's \$2.6 billion investment in higher education. While that's quite a sum, Grasselli Brown points out that Ohio ranks 40th in the nation in the amount of state support it provides its colleges and universities.

"We have been trying very hard to raise public awareness that higher education and economic prosperity are intimately tied," says Grasselli Brown, BS '50, HON '78. She also wants to see more students enter science and technology fields, particularly women and minorities.

"As an undergraduate, I was unique at the time," the former chemistry major says. "Women were not very accepted in the field. I was not only accepted, I was encouraged, mentored and given opportunities for undergraduate research."

Grasselli Brown has repaid her debt to the University many times over, serving on the Board of Trustees and The Ohio University Foundation board, volunteering as director of research enhancement for six years and providing monetary support for programming, scholarships and other endeavors.

Given her track record, and considering that her term on the Ohio Board of Regents extends until 2008, the state's colleges and universities are fortunate to have Grasselli Brown on their side.



**Jeanette Grasselli Brown**

## Representing rural roots

John Carey came to college in the late 1970s from Jackson County. He left still deeply committed to his rural region but better prepared to advance its causes in the world.

The state representative says his time as a political science major helped him acquire the internships and practical campaign experience he needed to get his start in politics.

"Working on political campaigns as an intern was probably as helpful as anything in terms of making contacts and pursuing my political career," adds Carey, AB '81. "Ohio University exposed me to a lot of viewpoints that I hadn't witnessed or heard before."

After graduation, he began a seven-year tour as an aide to Congressman Clarence Miller. In 1988, he was



**John Carey**

elected mayor of Wellston, Ohio. Six years later, he became a member of the Ohio House of Representatives.

As chair of the Finance and Appropriations Committee, Carey is working on issues of particular concern to his constituents.

Carey is pleased to have so many Ohio University graduates working with him at the Statehouse.

"We have one of the strongest contingents in political circles — certainly when you consider the powerful positions OU grads hold," he says.

## Thinking on her feet

When Ohio Senate Chief of Staff Teri Geiger faces tough decisions that require prompt resolution, she leans on her training in Ohio University's E.W. Scripps School of Journalism.

"You have to think quickly and on your feet," says Geiger, BSJ '86.

"Knowing how to perform under pressure was one of the benefits of journalism school."

The Senate is "ever changing," she says. "I can come in, in the morning, expecting to have the whole day laid out, and something else comes up. You never quite know what's going to be on your plate, and that's exciting to me."

Her plate has been full day after day for more than a decade. Geiger came to the Senate as a press aide in 1987 and soon was promoted to communications director. In 1996, she was

named chief of staff by Senate President Richard Finin.

Geiger's job keeps her in touch with her alma mater almost daily.

"I interact with OU alumni a lot — in the governor's office, in the House and in the Senate," she says. "One of our deputy press secretaries is from OU, and I'd be lying if I said that didn't make a difference in hiring her."

The OU network is very strong in state government."

*Jess Goode is a media specialist with University Media Services. Mary Alice Casey is editor of Ohio Today.*



**Teri Geiger**

## Who's who in Ohio

Here's a sampling of alumni in key positions throughout Ohio.

**Ron Abraham, MPA '87**

Chief of Division of Forestry, Ohio Department of Natural Resources

**Scott Borgemenke, AB '90**

President, Strategic Policy Advisors

**Greg Browning, MED '81**

President, Capital Partners

**Neil Clark, BGS '76**

Principal, State Street Consultants

**Scott Elisar, AB '87, MA '87**

Senior executive assistant to Columbus Mayor Mike Coleman

**Kathryn Bartter, BSJ '87**

Assistant director for cabinet affairs for Gov. Bob Taft

**Janet Durfee Hidalgo, MA '88, MPA '89**

Deputy director, Ohio Department of Education

**Dean Johnson, BSC '81, MPA '86**

Advocacy representative, Ohio AARP

**Dennis Morgan, BGS '76**

Director, Legislative Budget Office

**Ryan Miller, BSC '98**

Director of constituency service, Ohio House Republican Caucus

**Gordon Proctor, BSJ '90**

Director, Ohio Department of Transportation

**Daniel Schneider, MA '83**

Executive director, Public Children Services Association of Ohio

**Jen Simon, BSJ '94**

Assistant director, Governor's Office of Appalachia

**Curt Steiner, BSC '78**

CEO, HMS Success

**Erin Sullivan, BA '88**

Member, Ohio House of Representatives

**Joe Sulzer, BGS '72**

Member, Ohio House of Representatives

**Scott Williams, BA '92, MPA '95**

Director of state legislative affairs, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

**Charlie Wilson, BGS '80**

Member, Ohio House of Representatives



# It's not just squares a day

By Katie Fitzgerald

Photography by Landon Nordeman

Shrimp creole and ratatouille over rice have bumped mystery meat off dining hall menus, and that's just a taste of how much campus grub has grown up in recent years.

omaine lettuce tossed with fresh carrots, cucumber, green pepper, sunflower seeds, Healthy Choice ham, low-fat American cheese and zesty ranch dressing.

Steamed rice stir-fried with baby shrimp, red pepper, peas and bamboo shoots, covered in a rich teriyaki sauce.

Hot fudge drizzled over ice cream scooped out of a huge tub and topped with M&M candies.

You'd probably never guess this appetizing lineup comes from the same campus kitchens that just a few decades ago served up the institutional grub most of us associate with school dining — often some unsavory medley of mystery meat and canned veggies.

Ohio University Food Service has revolutionized the traditional concept of cafeteria food in recent years by offering a smorgasbord of meal choices for students' more sophisticated palates, satisfying vegetarian and omnivore alike, and making dining more accessible and convenient.

"It's been quite an evolution to get where we are today," says Housing and Food Service Director Randy Shelton of the program that caters to the campus' 7,044 residence hall dwellers. "We've tried to create a food service program responsive and flexible enough to change fairly quickly with student needs."



Students (from left) Meredith Moriarty, Lauren Hargis and Colby Gillette dig into the sundae bar at Shively Dining Hall.



Having grown up on a variety of ethnic foods, today's students expect diversity in their college dining halls. To satisfy their demand for more global flavors and a desire to personalize what goes on their plates, the University has added specialty food bars to the campus' four dining halls.

Students literally create their own dishes by dipping into the pasta and salad bars located in all the dining halls as well as a wok bar in Jefferson and Boyd halls, Asian and omelet bars in Nelson Hall, a potato bar in Boyd Hall and a sundae bar in Shively Hall. At some stations, such as the wok bar, they can even cook their own food, stir-frying veggies, rice and meat of their choice in a sizzling wok.

"I like the different specialty bars offered because you can find something to eat if you don't want what is on the main menu," says senior Michelle Duncan.

Standing in line for main menu items is one cafeteria tradition that's endured through the years. But instead of gulping down the standard meat or vegetable of the day,

students choose from a variety of hot entrees, from eggplant Parmesan to Cajun flounder, or pick up ever-popular fast food items such as hamburgers, pizza and french fries.

The dining halls also cater to the growing number of health-conscious students. Cooks use low-fat oils, steam most foods, provide healthy snacks such as soft-serve yogurt and offer vegetarian dishes, including spinach lasagna and meatless stuffed peppers. Nutritional information is available for all food items.

"Students are more focused on eating right today," says Greg Hopkins, director of dining services. "We have an obligation from an institutional point of view to provide healthy, nutritious meals that meet a wide variety of diets."

Because many students aren't accustomed to eating at traditional mealtimes, Food Service employees have expanded breakfast, lunch and dinner hours and developed some innovative alternatives for students who don't have time to chow down in the dining halls.

A new Grab-and-Go service allows students to pack up to five

items from a buffet line of hot entrees, the fast food menu, the deli and the soup and salad bar. Students can head back to their residence hall room or find a quiet spot on campus to eat.

"If they know they are going to be tied up through the normal lunch period, then they can come over, get something, pack it up, swipe their meal card and go," Shelton says.

Another alternative to the dining halls are convenience stores in Nelson and Boyd halls that stay open as late as midnight. Students can buy prepared items such as hot wings or frozen foods they can cook in the fridge/microwave units provided in each of their residence hall rooms. For students who miss dinner hours, snack bars in the dining halls offer sandwiches, salads, desserts and other munchies.

Sophomore Jeff Liggett is a regular patron of Grab-and-Go and the convenience stores.

"Grab-and-Go is great," he says. "I get it the majority of the time. The Boyd Market is pretty sweet, too. I get a lot of frozen snacks like Hot Pockets and pizza rolls."

**"It used to be based on what the cooks wanted to serve, but now it's based on what students want."**

**This way is much better."**

**—Larry Lamb**

an assistant manager at Nelson Dining



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:** Students prepare their dinners at the wok bar in Jefferson Dining Hall; tables fill up quickly during lunch; and Rayya Habeeb enjoys a breakfast prepared at Nelson Hall's omelet bar.

Dining hall employees hear similar comments from other students about the added convenience. In an online survey of 650 students last year, the Food Service program received a 74 percent approval rating.

The survey also asked students to make suggestions. As a result, more than 500 changes have been implemented, Shelton says, including adding vegetarian chili to the menu and switching from sliced to chopped cucumbers on the salad bar.

The program's creative use of the Internet earned its Web site ([www.ohio.edu/food/](http://www.ohio.edu/food/)) recognition as the National Food Services Web Site of the Month last May from the National Association of College and University Food Services. The site features daily menus, nutritional information, employment opportunities, an explanation of meal plans and a list of individualized dining hall options.

"We expanded the site to be a real service-type Web site," Shelton says. "If there is an issue, problem or whatever, we encourage our students to link to it and drop us a

quick message."

For many veteran Food Service employees, the idea of catering to students' needs is refreshing.

"Things have changed very quickly," says Larry Lambert, an assistant manager at Nelson Dining Hall who has worked on campus for 21 years. "It used to be based on what the cooks wanted to serve, but now it's based on what students want. This way is much better."

Students typically were limited to one serving each of meat, vegetables, bread, dessert and a beverage before the 1970s, when the all-you-can-eat approach became the norm.

"We didn't have many fresh vegetables or fruits," recalls Elsie Grebe, BBA '68, of Cincinnati. "You had maybe two or three choices of a main dish and you got whatever else came with it on the plate. And you got only one glass of milk. Those of us who didn't drink much gave the rest to the guys, especially the athletes. They always wanted more milk."

Callie Schmidt, BSed '60, of Bloomfield Hills, Mich., enjoys eat-

## Some savory stats

•Ohio University Food Service dishes out some 3 million meals a year. That's a feat that takes:

- ❖ 40,000 pounds of french fries
- ❖ 500,000 pounds of fresh produce
- ❖ 53,690 pounds of chicken nuggets
- 65,000 dozen baked goods

•The program is the largest employer of students on campus with more than 700 workers. Forty-six student managers are gaining experience and earning class credit as supervisors in dining halls, convenience stores, snack bars, catering and concession areas.

•Ohio University Food Service is among a handful of college and university programs nationwide to adopt its own food safety program, certifying all managers, cooks and custodians in safe food handling.

•Four campus employees have earned the food service management professional designation, the highest credential awarded by the National Restaurant Association.

ing in the dining halls when she returns to campus for various alumni events. She says today's selections are easier to stomach than some of the entrees served during her days on campus.

"At one of the special dinner nights they served fish — the whole fish!" Schmidt recalls. "You were looking at the eyes, the fins, everything. Most of us girls just pushed our plates to the center of the table."

Dining hall services continue to evolve to suit students' tastes and even a few academic needs. Near the end of the school year, Nelson Dining Hall will be renovated into a mini-mall setup that will include Grab-and-Go service, a larger convenience store, a copy center and a video rental store.

Despite these new amenities, college wouldn't be college if you didn't hear a few complaints about the food. Some students, such as sophomore Karla Myers, maintain a practical outlook, though.

"In general, I don't mind the dining hall food," she says, "because it means that I don't have to cook or do dishes."

*Katie Fitzgerald, BSJ '03, is a student writer for Ohio Today. Landon Nordeman, MSYC '02, is a graduate assistant in photography with Ohio University Media Services.*

# An invitation to lunch (Extended by Katie Fitzgerald)

**C**are to join me for lunch? Chances are dining hall fare has grown up a bit since you left. We'll need to hurry, though. For most students, lunch is the first "real" meal of the day, and the dining halls fill up quickly. Most of us sleep through breakfast as we dream of cancelled classes. I stash fruit bars in my room to quiet my growling stomach in the mornings.

Walking into

Jefferson Hall's dining area, you'll find a wide variety of selections, from Belgian waffles you make yourself to a garden patty or hamburger and fries. I tend to be health-conscious anymore, so after the student manager swipes my ID card, I head to the deli line. I get ham and Swiss cheese on a wheat bun, tomato soup, a banana, orange juice, skim milk and an oatmeal cookie.

People may kid about the Freshman 15, but it's no joke! Last year, I had my fill of french fries, grilled cheese sandwiches, pop and ice cream. I now am in what I call the Sophomore Slim; no more munching on readily available fried or junk food for me. I simply smile at freshmen loading up on greasy, fatty foods. They'll learn soon enough.

You might want to try the salad bar, but don't be surprised if you come back with more than you

can eat. After heaping your plate with romaine lettuce, you'll find everything from julienne turkey and chow mein noodles to pasta salad and deviled eggs to supplement your greens. And try not to hold up the line while you decide among a dozen different dressings.

My friend, Michelle, sits down with a dish of cheese ravioli, fries and a Pepsi. Although she has a sweet tooth, she opts for a low-fat brownie

instead of a hot fudge sundae. Another buddy, Bridget, a vegetarian, almost always lunches on raisin bran cereal and what she calls "ants-on-a-log," a creation she makes from celery, peanut butter and raisins.

Although we still complain about the food at times, you wouldn't know it by the way we eat.

Look at what the guy sitting at the next table has stacked on his tray: a bowl of soup, a hamburger, fish filets, fries, pop, juice and chips. I've learned that moderation is smart when it comes to navigating the dining halls. I made the mistake once of eating a full meal before heading to the Ping Recreation Center for a workout. Let's just say I didn't get in my full run that day.

Well, it's time to wrap it up. While you have the luxury of turning to the next page as your lunch settles, we have to go to class. But we'll be back in about five hours to do it all over again. Maybe tonight they'll serve ho-ho cake — chocolate cake layered with fudge and marshmallow cream — my one indulgence.



Katie Fitzgerald with her one vice — ho-ho cake.



When devastating earthquakes hit her native El Salvador, Ohio University researcher Dina Lopez answered a government call to help monitor volcanic activity. Her swift response was rooted in scientific curiosity, but even more, in a growing concern for her family living there.

**A**

**B R**

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# **HOMELAND**

**By Melissa Rake**



**D**ina Lopez was 14 when she first felt San Salvador's terrible tremble. Waking abruptly in the middle of the night to the sound of shattering glass, she instinctively took refuge under her bed covers.

The Central American city shifted its massive weight again 21 years later as Lopez stood in a geothermal energy laboratory where she worked as a scientist. She braced herself against a countertop as the seismic wave tore through the one-story building.

"It was about time for us to have another one," the Ohio University associate professor of geological sciences says solemnly of the 1986 earthquake. "Studies forecast that every 15 years there will be a strong earthquake in San Salvador. The epicenters are right below the city. That's why it's called the Hammock Valley — the earth below is always swinging."

So when her Saturday chores in Athens were interrupted by a Jan. 13 phone call from her brother about El Salvador's latest earthquake — the worst in the nation's history — Lopez was overwhelmed with concern for her family living there but hardly surprised by the quake's timing. She and her husband, Moris, have nearly 100 relatives in the country. None were injured, only shaken up by the disaster.

"Most of all, I wanted to be there," Lopez says, recalling CNN's unsettling images of victims being pulled from the rubble. "It sounds crazy, but I wanted to be there with them."

She was on a plane to El Salvador just six days later. Although Lopez was anxious to see her relatives, her mission was official business. The Salvadoran government had requested her help in monitoring volcanic activity in the disaster's wake. The Massachusetts-sized nation of 6 million, located on numerous faults, is dotted with volcanoes that officials worried might erupt as a result of the quake.

Lopez, whose work as a hydrogeochemist has involved extensive studies of volcanoes, spent a week collecting soil gas samples, measuring carbon dioxide levels in the soil and taking various readings of water-filled calderas, large land depressions formed by the collapse of a volcano.

The readings were normal, indicat-

ing peace among the volcanic peaks — at least for the moment.

"We still need to keep observing these areas," she says. "With all the activity lately, there's still a chance a volcano could reactivate."

The trip also gave Lopez a look at the extensive devastation caused by the 7.6-magnitude quake that, in just 36 seconds, killed more than 800 people, destroyed 278,000 homes and left nearly a million people homeless. Because the quake was deep, Lopez says, damage was widespread. Tremors were felt in neighboring Guatemala and Honduras.

"It was very difficult to see all the destruction," she says. "Some towns were completely destroyed. You would not believe the extent of the landslides caused by the earthquake. The cars parked in the streets — they looked like sheets of paper that had been crumpled up."

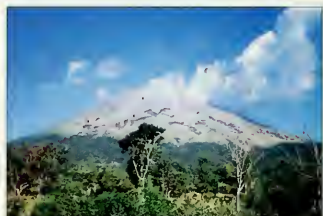
Salvadorans have had little relief since then. Several more earthquakes, ranging in magnitude from 3.8 to 6.6, and thousands of aftershocks have rattled the country, killing hundreds more. With the government estimating damage at \$2 billion, Lopez worries about El Salvador's recovery, especially since the rainy season begins late this spring.

"The need is so great and the damage is so horrible," she says. "The country is getting some international aid, but it's not enough. The people are homeless and will end up building cardboard houses if they don't have resources. Now debris has collected in the waterways. If we don't do something to prevent flooding and landslides, more people will die."

Lopez returned to El Salvador in March to continue her volcano watch and help researchers examine how the country prepares for and handles natural disasters, including such storms as Hurricane Mitch, which pummeled the nation in 1998. These recent cataclysms, along with a 12-year civil war that dominated the 1980s, have left



**ABOVE:** More than 800 Salvadorans were killed and nearly a million left homeless when a massive earthquake rattled the Central American country earlier this year. **RIGHT:** San Miguel volcano is among those Dina Lopez is helping to monitor in El Salvador. Researchers worry the volcanoes might erupt as a result of the recent seismic activity.



the country economically strapped and with limited technology to monitor seismic and weather patterns. Lopez, who plans to return this summer, is working with researchers from Spain to acquire seismology equipment to be placed in volcanoes near San Salvador.

Because Lopez isn't a volcanologist in a strict sense — she studies volcanic hydrothermal systems such as springs and geysers — her Ohio University research is conducted far from volcanoes. In Athens, she is studying ways to ease acid mine drainage in area creeks. Minerals produced by acid mine drainage are similar to those found in acid sulfate waters of volcanoes. She also is examining Ohio lakes affected by acid mine drainage and El Salvador's polluted volcanic calderas.

But having grown up and earned her undergraduate degree in El Salvador, Lopez understands her people's plight and wants to use her expertise, drawn from geology and physics graduate programs at Louisiana State and Virginia Tech, to help her native country.

Even in Athens, Lopez feels San Salvador's terrible tremble.

"They sounded so scared," she says of relatives who called about the continuing aftershocks. "Their voices were full of panic. I decided then that I would have to do all I could to help them prepare for any future eruption."

Melissa Rake is assistant editor of Ohio Today.





# Flights of fancy

## Pilot lives his dream as Thunderbirds commander

By Corinne Colbert

In his days with the Flying Bobcats, John Venable, BS '81, would daydream in the team's hangar, gazing at a photo of the Navy's Blue Angels precision flight team.

He attended Ohio University specifically for its Air Force ROTC program, and he majored in business administration to learn how to deal with people effectively — all because he had his sights set on becoming a member of the Thunderbirds, the Air Force's acclaimed air demonstration squadron.

"I knew I wanted to be a Thunderbird years ago," Venable says. "Some kids want to be ballplayers or doctors or dentists. This is all I ever wanted to do."

His Air Force career sent him around the world: Spain, Korea, England. He became a fighter pilot, as Thunderbirds must be. With each assignment, he moved closer to his goal.

"You have to want to be a Thunderbird," he explains. "You have to compile a record worth boasting about. You don't actually boast, of course, but you have to build a résumé."

By 1998, he'd done that. And he believed he possessed an important quality required of Thunderbirds: a flexible personality. With only eight pilots on the squad — and just six who fly in demonstrations — new members have to fit in.

"I like to say that if you have a team of holy rollers, a devil worshiper doesn't fit in," Venable jokes.

Finally, in 1999, he got the word he'd waited for all his life. Lt. Col. John Venable didn't just become a Thunderbird; he became commander and lead pilot.

"This is a childhood dream real-



Thunderbirds Commander John Venable, BS '81, poses in front of an F-16C jet used by his squad in air shows across the country.

"Some kids want to be ballplayers or doctors or dentists. This is all I ever wanted to do."

Lt. Col. John Venable

ized, and it's actually better than the dream," he says. "To be able to go out and fly the way we do and go all over is just a great feeling."

Thunderbirds give up to 88 flight demonstrations a year. In its 48-year history, the squad has performed for more than 310 million people in all 50 states and 59 countries around the world.

Each demonstration includes about 30 maneuvers. Four of the pilots perform precise maneuvers, such as a tight diamond formation, to showcase their training and skill. Two other pilots do solo maneuvers to display the capabilities of the

F-16C jets used in combat.

This summer, Venable and his flight squad will perform at the Dayton Air Show July 21 and 22.

"I went to the Dayton Air Show in 1977 after I graduated from high school and saw the Thunderbirds," he remembers. "I went again in 1981, after I finished college, and saw them. This will be 20 years since that summer."

People who come out for the shows always are eager to meet the team's members.

"We meet folks from all over the U.S., and I've found that this is a really grateful nation," he says. "You don't get to see that when you're just a normal guy in the Air Force."

There's a wow factor at home at Nevada's Nellis Air Force Base, too. While his 5-year-old son has become a little blasé about Dad's job, the 2-year-old is not. "He says 'Da-Da' whenever he sees a flag or an airplane," Venable says.

That may be what keeps Venable aloft after the end of this year. Pilots are assigned to the Thunderbirds for only two years, which means when 2001 is over, so is his command.

"I'm looking for my replacement right now," he says.

He isn't looking too much beyond that right now. "I want to stay in the Air Force," he says. "I like it, and it's been good to me."

Corinne Colbert, BSJ '87 and MA '93, is a freelance writer living in Amesville, Ohio.

## See them in action

The Thunderbirds will perform July 21 and 22 at the Dayton Air Show at Dayton International Airport. For more information, call (937) 898-5901, e-mail [info@usats.org](mailto:info@usats.org), or check the Web at [www.usats.org/](http://www.usats.org/).





Lisa Miree, BSJ '97 and MA '00, is Miss Black USA.

## Miss Black USA takes moral stand

By Melissa Rake

**L**isa Miree has an agenda, and she's using her newly acquired tiara and satin sash to forward it whenever she can. Crowned Miss Black USA in March, Miree's message is abstinence before marriage, a challenging platform to push these days.

But Miree, BSJ '97 and MA '00, doesn't see her message as outdated, only forgotten.

"Some young people I've talked to have never heard the words abstinence or celibacy," says the 24-year-old. "My goal this year as Miss Black USA is to package abstinence and make it attractive."

Before the end of her reign, Miree wants to lead a march on Washington, D.C., to denounce premarital sex and drug and alcohol abuse. Her strong stance is rooted in health issues, such as teen-age pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, and morals.

"It's important for me to save myself

for marriage. It goes back to my mom telling me to respect myself," she says. "Young people need to focus on their education and goals and not get caught up in all the issues associated with sex. Why deal with that?"

At Ohio University, she immersed herself in campus activities, including leadership roles in the University Hearing Board, University Singers, Faces of Modeling Club, Student Senate and the Black Student Communication Caucus. Miree earned her bachelor's in journalism in just three years and, soon after, a master's in international affairs/communication development. Dual Ohio University degrees aren't unusual in the

Miree family; brothers David, BSPP '90 and MSPE '91, and Chris, AB '95 and MAPA '96, share the credentials.

Miree's college experiences prepped her for the Miss Black Cincinnati pageant, which she won in April 2000. That title qualified her for the Miss Black USA pageant in Birmingham, Ala. There, she bowled over judges with her impassioned message and a unique talent segment that combined her skills as an actor, poet, vocalist and pianist.

"I just wish I could have thrown in dance," she says.

While working as an associate producer and researcher at WCPO-Channel 9 in her native Cincinnati and doing some nonfiction writing—including a project chronicling three months she spent in Costa Rica for the United Nations—she says she plans to keep pushing her cause. She's developed a Web site ([www.crown Crusade.com](http://www.crown Crusade.com)) that explains her mission.

"I have my challenges," she says. "There are people who don't want to hear my message, but this title allows me to get into venues where I can talk to teens," she says. "There is power in the crown."

Melissa Rake is assistant editor of Ohio Today.

## Partners in practice

By Lisa Watts

**D**ebra Fast and Kathy Fearon struck up a conversation on their first day of classes in the College of Osteopathic Medicine—and they've barely stopped talking since.

"We're very similar," Fast says.

"We're both positive people,"

Fearon adds, finishing her friend's thought. "We have the same goals, we're thorough, and we hate when things fall through the cracks."

Nine years after their first meeting—and six after

both earned doctor of osteopathy degrees in 1995—the two doctors operate an internal medicine practice in Wooster, Ohio, with a third partner. Their friendship has carried them through exams, residencies, weddings and vacations. Running a business together seemed only natural.

"It's kind of like when you're a little girl and you say to your best friend, 'One day we'll live in a big mansion. I'll live in one wing, you'll live in the other, and our kids can play together,'" Fearon says. "One day during our residency we were talking, 'Wouldn't it be neat if we could find a place where we could open our own practice together and see patients the way we want to?'"

So began Comprehensive Internal Medicine Inc., which the women opened in October 1999 with Dr. Dana Bonezzi. The doctors say caring for patients with multiple ailments is their specialty.

While the docs work 10- to 12-hour days and divvy up nights and weekends on call, they make time for their friendship, too. Since they both live in Wooster, it's easy for Fearon and her husband, Harold, and Fast and her husband, Tom, and their 1-year-old daughter to spend time together.

"At work, it's all business, all doctor talk," Fearon says. "On the weekends and vacations, we stop talking shop and the friendship stuff comes out. Our lives are so intertwined."

Lisa Watts is editor of the College of Wooster's Wooster Magazine.



Doctors (left) Kathy Fearon and Debra Fast

Joel Trayer

# Working for our founding father

By Mary Alice Casey

Patrick Madden doubts he'll have another "career moment" like this. Not that Madden, BMUS '94 and MA '96, doesn't have a bright future. It's just that the chance to help ensure the most famous portrait of our founding father doesn't slip out of America's hands only comes along, well, maybe once in a thousand years.

As director of external affairs for the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C., Madden handles fund raising and public relations. He kept busy on both fronts after the heir to the British family that has owned the "Lansdowne" portrait of George Washington for 120 years — and provided it on loan to the gallery for 33 — decided to sell it. In November, Harry Dalmeny gave the gallery until April 1 to meet his \$20 million asking price. If it didn't, he planned to have Sotheby's sell the painting at auction, which could have prompted a bid of \$40 million or more.

"This is the portrait of George Washington that everyone knows," Madden says of the life-size painting. "It had the potential to be one of the most expensive American works sold at auction. The Portrait Gallery has never raised such a sum and never needed to."

Washington posed for the portrait painted by Gilbert Stuart in 1796, the last year of his presidency. It was commissioned by Sen. William Bingham as a gift for the Marquis of Lansdowne, a British supporter of the American cause during the Revolution. Stuart is known to have painted two copies and helped paint several others, one of which hangs in the White House.



The "Lansdowne" portrait of George Washington.

The task that faced Madden and his boss, gallery Director Marc Pachter, was ensuring that the original, and most valuable, remained accessible to the American public.

"There was a 99.9 percent chance that, if auctioned off, the portrait would have gone to a private collection," Madden says. "Our aim really was, 'Can we save George Washington for the American people?'"

Initially, the gallery worked quietly to find a donor to fund the purchase. There were nibbles but no bites. Then, five weeks before the deadline, a Washington business journal learned of the effort and planned to break the story. It was time for the gallery to

make national headlines.

"It took on a life of its own after that," says Madden, whose news release prompted nationwide coverage. "It was because of the media that we found our donor."

The chair of the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation spotted an article about the gallery's quest in the *Wall Street Journal*. The next day, its president saw Madden's boss being interviewed on NBC's "Today" show and left a voicemail for Madden.

Discussions ensued and within a week Madden hammered out the agreement. Two weeks before the deadline, he issued another news release: The Reynolds Foundation would donate \$20 million to buy the portrait, \$4 million to fund a space for it in the National Portrait Gallery and \$6 million for educational programs and a three-year national tour of the portrait. It will return to Washington when the gallery, which is closed for renovations, reopens in 2004.

Madden says the gallery received hundreds of offers to help. A New York third-grader planned to launch a Web site about the effort. Texas schoolkids wanted to donate \$1 each and get their community to provide matching funds.

"It was an incredible boost that reminded us we were going to be successful," he says. "The American people were going to write the final chapter. I'm sure I'll never have the chance to work on another project like this — one that affects so many people. This was the opportunity of a career."

Mary Alice Casey is editor of Ohio Today.

## So who is this Patrick Madden?

Patrick Madden grew up in Chevy Chase, Md., the son of two Ohio University alumni: the late John F. Madden, BSIE '50, and Mary Ellen Traubert Madden, BSED '50, and the brother of another, John F. Madden Jr., BS '89. As an undergraduate, he majored in music history. He continued on for a master's, blending music, business and telecommunications coursework.



Patrick Madden

Since graduation, he's worked in development and/or public relations for the Aspen Music Festival, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Washington Chamber Symphony and, since 1998, for the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery.

He remains active with the University, serving on the School of Music Society of Alumni and Friends board and as a member of the Nation's Capital Alumni Chapter.

Madden and his wife, Sue Ellen, live in Arlington, Va.

# FROM YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

A SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS



## It's about time to get back to class

By Michael Murphy

**S**tart with Ohio University's scenic campus, add dynamic professors discussing interesting topics and top it off with alumni of all ages sharing campus memories. Combine this mixture, and you'll get four days of fun and enrichment.

The 20th annual Alumni College, presented by the Alumni Association and the Division of Lifelong Learning, is scheduled July 19 through 22.

"As an alumni association, we are always looking for the best way to directly affect the lives of Bobcats across the country," says Ralph Amos, assistant vice president and executive director of alumni relations. "Alumni College offers the opportunity to return to campus and experience the best that Ohio University has to offer."

This year's program explores a wide range of communication issues. Join Professor of Telecommunications David Mould and Assistant Professor of Political Science Michael Burton in a discussion about how global media affects public opinion. Listen as Trustee Professor of English

## 20th Alumni College

July 19-22

Samuel Crowl explores "The Great Communicator: A History of Shakespeare on Film." Watch as Larry Nighswander, director of the School of Visual Communication, presents photos taken during his stint as picture editor at *National Geographic* magazine.

"We all strive to effectively communicate in our daily lives," says Connie Romine, associate executive director of alumni relations. "These outstanding faculty will demonstrate that the power of listening and the art of sharp dialogue are more useful techniques than we might think."

Alumni also can attend an estate planning seminar conducted by Alumni Association Board of Directors member and financial planner Jeff Chaddock and sign up for golf and tennis lessons with

Division of Campus Recreation instructors.

The weekend begins July 19 with Director of Choral Activities Peter Jarjirian leading alumni in song on "Spirit Night." On July 20, participants will attend a performance of Ohio Valley Summer Theater's

"Cheaper by the Dozen." The evening includes a pre-show dinner and a discussion with the director. A July 21 dinner at Baker University Center Ballroom wraps up the weekend's activities.

Alumni will reside at the recently renovated Shively Hall, and all meals will be served at Nelson Dining Hall.

"Alumni College is the best way to return to campus," Amos says. "We expect this year to really set the standard for future Alumni College events."

For Alumni College updates, check the World Wide Web at [www.ohio.edu/alumni/college/](http://www.ohio.edu/alumni/college/) or contact the Alumni Association at (740) 593-4300 or [alumni@ohio.edu](mailto:alumni@ohio.edu).

Michael Murphy, BSJ and BA '02, is the student events assistant for Alumni Relations.

### Alumni Association Board of Directors

#### Executive Committee

##### Chair

William J. Burke, DO '88

##### Executive Vice Chair

David C. Wilhelm, AB '77

##### Vice Chair

Amiso M. George, BSC '83, BSJ '86, MA '87, PHD '92

##### Vice Chair

Ronald L. Patrick, BSEE '60

##### Vice Chair

David Radanovich, AB '79, BSC '79

##### Immediate Past Chair

John P. Susany, AB '83

#### Members

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Kathy Bush-Soulé, BS '81

John A. Cascese, BSC '76, MA '79

Jeffery D. Chaddock, BSC '88

Suzanne Ryan Curran Dalton, AB '68

Valerie K. Haskell, BSJ '72

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Jacqueline A. Sensky, BSJ '83

Lon G. Walls, BA '72, BSJ '78

Byron P. White, BSJ '87

Susan A. Wolken, BSED '73

### Alumni Association Staff

#### Assistant vice president

and executive director of alumni relations

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#### Associate executive director

Connie Romine, BFA '70

#### Director, marketing communication

Marcelyn M. Kropp

#### Director, alumni chapter outreach

Michael Worley, BSIS '95, MSPE '96

#### Assistant director, societies and campus relations

Judith Johnson

#### Coordinator, alumni chapter outreach

and Student Alumni Board

Jennifer Heisey

#### To contact us

Ohio University Alumni Association, 52 University Terrace, P.O. Box 428, Athens, Ohio 45701-0428; phone, (740) 593-4300; fax, (740) 593-4310; e-mail, [alumni@ohio.edu](mailto:alumni@ohio.edu); or Web, [www.ohio.edu/alumni/](http://www.ohio.edu/alumni/)



## Reconnect through reunions

African-American alumni who graduated between 1945 and 1965 are invited to attend A Soulful Reunion on campus Aug. 10 through 12. For details, contact Dorothy Lou Sands at (323) 299-8642 or [Bipsylon@aol.com](mailto:Bipsylon@aol.com).

Sigma Nu fraternity is celebrating its 50th anniversary Sept. 7 and 8 on campus. For more information, contact Jack Ellis at (740) 593-4271 or [ellis@ohio.edu](mailto:ellis@ohio.edu).

Women who graduated during the 1960s and '70s are encouraged to participate in the March 15 through 17 Celebration of Women Weekend, a combination reunion and women's conference scheduled for spring 2002. For details, contact Judith Johnson at (740) 593-4300 or [jjohnson5@ohio.edu](mailto:jjohnson5@ohio.edu).

## Look for alumni surveys

Watch your mailbox for surveys asking you to update your records for the 2002 edition of the Ohio University Alumni Directory. The Alumni Association is producing a hardbound and CD-ROM version of the directory, which will list all 170,000 Ohio University alumni, living and deceased. The directory will be available for purchase by spring 2002.

## Chapters offer regional events

- The Akron/Canton Chapter's annual Indians baseball outing is at 7:05 p.m. June 8. Contact: Greg Landis at (330) 923-9701 or [PKT1910@hotmail.com](mailto:PKT1910@hotmail.com).
- The Denver Chapter is looking for alumni to volunteer as part of the Prairie Shrubland Restoration-Weed Management program at Phantom Canyon on June 10. Contact: Margaret Foderaro at (303) 338-9369 or [Mfoderaro@hotmail.com](mailto:Mfoderaro@hotmail.com).
- The Massachusetts Chapter Serving New England presents Monomoy Theatre Weekend June 22 through 24 in Chatham, Mass. The Ohio University Players will perform the musical "Oliver!" Contact: Bob or Jean Axline at 1-800-742-2273.
- The Central Ohio Chapter's 11th Annual Alumni Golf Outing is Aug. 4 at Wyandott Golf Course near Columbus. More than 100 alumni are expected. Contact: Brett Lee McCormick at (614) 444-2282.
- The Greater Raleigh/Durham Chapter will host a football pre-game event when the Bobcats play North Carolina State University Sept. 1. Contact: Ryan Rudy at 1-800-846-3668 or [bsrudy@yahoo.com](mailto:bsrudy@yahoo.com).
- The Bobcats of Morgantown will sponsor a football pre-game event Sept. 8 when Ohio plays West Virginia University. Contact: Mike Worley at (740) 593-4300 or [worley@ohio.edu](mailto:worley@ohio.edu).

## At Your Service

Ohio University Alumni Association membership is free and automatic for anyone who has completed at least one year of study at the University. Members develop personal and professional networks, impact the University and share in special savings and products. Here are some of the association's services:

**Ohio University Visa Card:** Offers alumni a credit card with numerous features, including a low fixed annual percentage rate for the first five months and then a subsequent reasonable interest rate; no annual fee; and a balance transfer option. Each time the card is used, the bank makes a contribution to Ohio University to support alumni programs at no additional cost to the cardholders. Call 1-800-537-6954 to apply.

**Recreational Services:** Allow alumni to use the Ping Student Recreation Center on a short- or long-term basis. Visit [www.ohio.edu/recreation/ping/ping.htm](http://www.ohio.edu/recreation/ping/ping.htm) on the Web.

**Career Services:** Provide assistance to students and alumni for effective career development. Call (740) 593-2909.

**Volunteer Admissions Network:** Allows alumni to share college experiences with high school students and encourage them to enroll at Ohio University. Call (740) 593-4116.

**Awards Programs:** Provide recognition and thanks from Ohio University to deserving alumni. Call (740) 593-4308.

**University Apparel:** Visit the Specialty Bookstore Web site at [www.specialtybookstore.com](http://www.specialtybookstore.com) for great Bobcat merchandise. A portion of the sales benefits the University.

**Official Watch and Ring:** Offer alumni a way to display their affinity for their alma mater. Both items prominently feature the University seal. Call (740) 593-4300.

**Sponsored Insurance Plans:** Offer affordable rates on auto, term life, homeowners/renters, comprehensive major medical (not available to New York residents) and short-term medical insurance. For auto and home insurance, call 1-800-225-8285 and for life and medical insurance, call 1-800-922-1245 or visit the Web at [www.alumni-insurance.com/ohio](http://www.alumni-insurance.com/ohio)

**Leadership Service:** Allows alumni to guide the strategic direction of the association. Call (740) 593-4300.

**Societies of Alumni and Friends:** Allow alumni to network with and support specific schools and colleges. Call (740) 593-4300.

**Alumni Chapters:** Provide ongoing involvement with Ohio University and fellow alumni. Call (740) 593-4300.

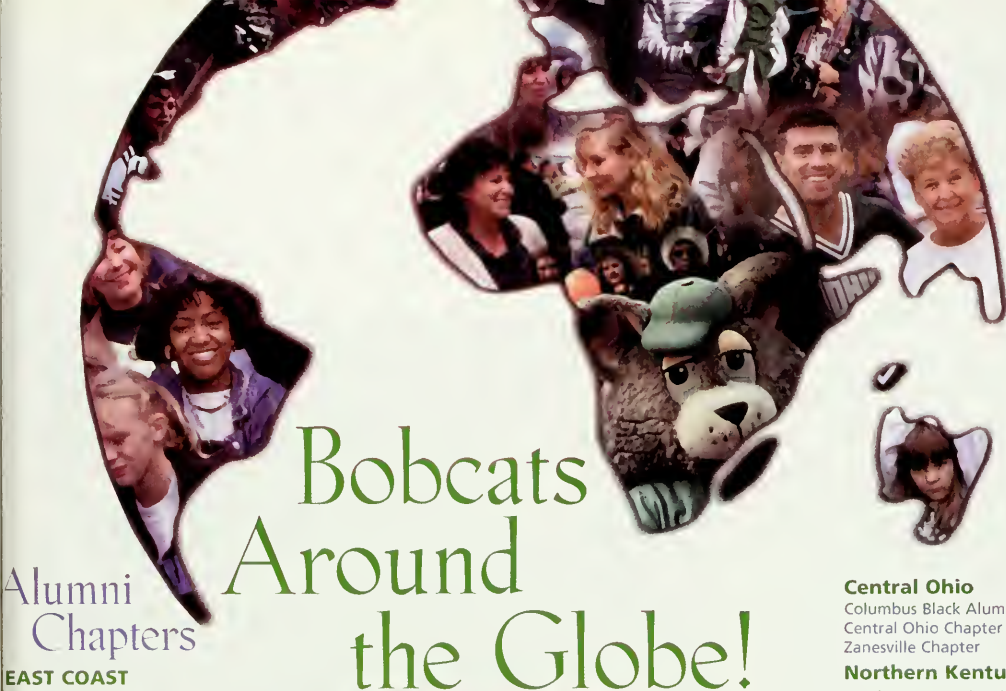
**Tours and Travel Program:** Sponsors exciting travel and educational experiences. Call (740) 593-4300.

**Specialty License Plates:** Contact your local Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles. A portion of the fee provides money for scholarships.

### SERVICE SPOTLIGHT

## Why you should get involved

Being involved in a chapter or society provides alumni many personal and professional benefits. The Alumni Association offers more than 50 alumni chapters worldwide and 16 Societies of Alumni and Friends that have ties to campus colleges and schools. For information on a chapter or society, contact the Alumni Association at (740) 593-4300 or [alumni@ohio.edu](mailto:alumni@ohio.edu).



# Bobcats Around the Globe!

## Alumni Chapters

### EAST COAST

#### Virginia

Central Virginia Chapter

#### District of Columbia

Nation's Capital Chapter  
Nation's Capital Black Chapter

#### New Hampshire

New Hampshire Chapter

#### Massachusetts

Massachusetts Chapter  
Serving New England  
(includes Maine, New  
Hampshire, Rhode Island,  
Vermont)

#### New York

Greater NY/NJ/CT Chapter  
Upstate New York Chapter

#### Pennsylvania

Mid-Atlantic/Philadelphia  
Chapter  
Greater Pittsburgh Chapter

### GREAT LAKES, MIDWEST

#### Illinois

Greater Chicago Chapter

#### Central Indiana

Greater Indianapolis Chapter

#### Wisconsin

Wisconsin Chapter

#### Missouri

St. Louis Chapter

#### Minnesota

Minnesota Chapter

#### Michigan

Michigan Chapter

### SOUTHERN MIDWEST

#### Texas

Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter  
Houston Chapter  
Austin Chapter

#### Colorado

Denver Chapter

### WEST, SOUTHWEST

#### California

Greater Los Angeles Chapter  
San Francisco Chapter

#### Arizona

Greater Phoenix Chapter

### NORTHWEST

#### Washington

Seattle Chapter

#### Oregon

Oregon Chapter

### SOUTHEAST

#### Georgia

Atlanta African-American Chapter  
Greater Atlanta Chapter

#### North Carolina

Greater Charlotte Chapter  
Greater Raleigh/Durham Chapter

#### South Carolina

South Carolina Chapter

#### Tennessee

Nashville Chapter

#### Florida

Fort Meyers (Southwest) Chapter  
Gulf Coast Chapter  
Orlando Chapter  
Sarasota (Suncoast) Chapter  
Palm Beach Chapter

### OHIO AREA

#### Eastern/Southern Ohio

Eastern Ohio Chapter  
Fairfield County Chapter  
Southeastern Ohio Chapter  
Greater Dayton Chapter  
Greater Cincinnati Chapter

#### Northern Ohio

Akron/Canton Chapter  
Akron Association of OU Women  
Greater Cleveland Chapter  
Greater Cleveland Black Chapter  
Women's Club of Greater Cleveland  
Parents' Club of Cleveland  
Greater Toledo Chapter  
Youngstown/Warren Chapter

#### Central Ohio

Columbus Black Alumni Chapter  
Central Ohio Chapter  
Zanesville Chapter

#### Northern Kentucky

Northern Kentucky Chapter

#### West Virginia

West Virginia Chapter

### INTERNATIONAL CHAPTERS

Republic of China (Taiwan)  
German Chapter Serving Europe  
Hong Kong  
Indonesia  
Japan  
Korea  
Malaysia  
Nigeria  
Singapore  
Thailand  
United Kingdom

### SOCIETIES

College of Arts & Sciences  
College of Business  
College of Communication  
E. W. Scripps School of Journalism  
College of Education  
College of Fine Arts  
School of Music  
College of Health & Human  
Services  
Sports Administration/Facilities  
Management  
Honors Tutorial College  
College of Osteopathic Medicine  
Russ College of Engineering &  
Technology  
University College  
Marching Band  
Ohio University Cheerleaders  
Blue Line Booster

# IN GREEN & WHITE

NEWS FROM OHIO ATHLETICS



## 'This program is primed to win'

### New men's basketball coach shooting for quick, balanced team

Interview by George Mauzy

**T**alking to Tim O'Shea, you get the sense the new men's basketball coach already is one of Ohio University's biggest fans. The players, the academics, the facilities — all top-notch, he boasts.

The feeling is mutual.

"Tim O'Shea is a perfect, perfect fit for Ohio University," says Director of Athletics Thomas Boeh. "He has an enormous ability to find basketball talent. He also is a great floor coach."

O'Shea, 39, was an assistant coach at Yale from 1986 to 1988 and Rhode Island from 1988 to 1997. When head coach Al Skinner left Rhode Island for Boston College in 1997, he lured O'Shea to BC to serve as associate head coach. This past season, Boston College went 27-5, earning a No. 3 seed in the NCAA East Regional.

O'Shea succeeds Larry Hunter, who was let go after 12 seasons with the Bobcats.

Originally from Wayland, Mass., O'Shea played guard at Boston College, which made it to the Elite Eight once and Sweet 16 twice during his four seasons. He has a bachelor's in speech communication and a master's in counseling psychology from Boston College. He and his wife, Elizabeth, have a daughter, Madeleine, 2.

Shortly after his March 29 appointment, the coach shared these thoughts in an interview with *Ohio Today*:

#### **Why is this a good job for Tim O'Shea?**

This is a great job because it has tremendous potential. I'm at a program that in terms of facilities alone is every bit a Big Ten Conference program. We have a great arena, weight room and locker room and a first-class university. Everything about Ohio University makes it a big-time situation, and we have some serious competitive advantages over most MAC schools. When you get a chance to come into a situation like this, it's a no-brainer.



Director of Athletics Thomas Boeh introduces Tim O'Shea as Ohio University's new men's basketball coach at a March news conference.

#### **Can you share some thoughts on becoming a head coach?**

Every assistant coach in America wants to be a head coach, but I wasn't going to take a job where I couldn't win. This program has been successful, is primed to win and is just looking for a little more success.

#### **Why was it important to you to sign a seven-year contract?**

All coaches want security. I was in a good position to negotiate because I had a great job. The seven-year contract underscores that I'm the right guy and they're not just bringing me in here because they have a good team. They want me to build a great program.

#### **What style of play can we expect?**

In the half-court game we will play sensible, look for mismatches, go to our strengths and play team basketball. I want five guys scoring in double figures. This has always been a game of quickness; height is overrated. I also like the 3-point shot, because it's easy

to make and it's worth 50 percent more.

#### **How about your recruiting philosophies?**

Ohio University is an easy sell, so I see no reason why our recruiting base has to stay in Ohio. This school has big-time facilities and a great academic center and plays in a great conference. We must identify our recruiting niche, get the top players in that niche and work on player development.

#### **What is your impression of the players?**

The players were great when I met them, and they have a desire to win and do well. They seem very excited about next season. As far as playing time, it will be a fair and open competition.

#### **What thoughts can you share with alumni?**

All that really matters is how the team represents the University on and off the court. We will have a team that plays hard, plays with passion and is always ready to compete.

*George Mauzy is a media specialist with Ohio University Media Services.*



# An advocate for equity

By George Mauzy

**P**eggy Pruitt is always game for a challenge. Whether it's speaking up for women athletes or knocking a golf ball around the fairways of her favorite course, she gives every situation her best shot.

She'll have more time for the latter come June, when the senior associate athletics director will retire after 26 years with Ohio University. A new artificial turf field along South Shafer Street has been named Peggy Pruitt Field in her honor.

Pruitt has served as the official voice for Ohio University women's athletics during what many would agree has been its most important era. It's been a time highlighted by huge gains for female athletes, in large part because of the 1972 Title IX educational amendment. In the past two and a half decades, she's seen the number of women's sports jump from seven to 11 and new fields and locker rooms installed for women's lacrosse, soccer and field hockey.

Described by colleagues as caring, fair and calm under pressure, Pruitt is quick to note the contributions of the athletic directors with whom she has worked: the late Bill Rohr, Harold McElhane and Thomas Boeh.

"Each of them significantly helped the progression of women's athletics," Pruitt says. "Without their support and initiative, much of the progress would not have happened."

Pruitt describes her membership on the University's 1978 Title IX special committee as a career milestone. The group developed a plan to distribute 66 athletic scholarships to women over a four-year period. Today, 113 athletic scholarships go to women each year.

"Peggy definitely was one of the most powerful voices on the committee," says former Bobcat trainer Skip Vosler, who chaired the panel. "She always has the best interest of Ohio University, the Athletics Department

and student-athletes in mind."

A native of Louisville, Ky., Pruitt was a standout high school tennis player who went on to earn bachelor's and master's degrees in physical education from the University of Kentucky. Her first full-time collegiate coaching job came at Nazareth College in Bardonia, Ky. In 1976, after a year as Ohio University's coordinator of women's

athletics and coach of the women's tennis and field hockey teams, she finished work on a doctorate in physical education at the University of Illinois.

Pruitt values her coaching stint — which ended in the 1980s as her administrative duties grew — because of the insider's perspective it gave her.

"Peggy has always gotten along great with the coaches," says Elmore Banton, who has coached men's and women's track and field for 21 years. "As a former coach, she understands our needs and problems."

Adds field hockey coach Shelly Morris: "Peggy is a real advocate for women's athletics. She does all the little things that matter and cares about the student-athletes and the teams."

Pruitt's expertise has extended beyond the Bobcats to numerous conference and NCAA obligations.

"Peggy Pruitt has provided exceptional service to Ohio University Athletics, the Mid-American Conference and the NCAA for 25 years," says Boeh, who has worked closely with Pruitt in his six years as director of athletics. "Her extraordinary loyalty and commitment to our department and the student-athlete experience have been nothing short of remarkable."

Modestly, Pruitt says the department will get along fine without her.

"It doesn't feel like I've been here that long because I have really enjoyed my job and the people I've worked with," she says. "I'll miss the daily contact with people, but I will still enjoy coming to the sporting events."



Peggy Pruitt will retire in June.

Photo: Patricia

## Plenty to see at Peden

There'll be a lot to check out at Sept. 22's football home opener. Your options include the Bobcats vs. Iowa State on the field, Brian Knorr pacing the sidelines for the first time as head coach and several Peden Stadium improvements.

To help you better appreciate the third of those three, here's some background: The project will add 4,000 seats to increase the stadium's capacity to 24,000. The running track is being removed, the playing surface lowered and a grass berm seating area, band seating/stage section and two viewing areas for people with disabilities are being added. You can follow the project's progress on the Web at [www.ohiobobcats.com/fbojfb/](http://www.ohiobobcats.com/fbojfb/).

The \$2.7 million project received a huge boost from two generous alumni: Joan "Jody" Galbreath Phillips, BSED '46, who has pledged \$1 million, and William Dillingham, BBA '71, who has pledged \$500,000.

In addition to the Sept. 22 game (Parents Weekend), the Bobcats are at home Oct. 6 against Toledo (Hall of Fame Weekend), Oct. 20 vs. Miami (Green and White Club Day), Oct. 27 vs. Kent State (Homecoming) and Nov. 10 vs. Bowling Green (Football/Cheerleader Alumni Day). Road games are Sept. 1 at North Carolina State, Sept. 8 at West Virginia, Sept. 29 at Akron, Oct. 13 at Central Michigan, Nov. 3 at Buffalo and Nov. 17 at Marshall. For tickets, call 1-800-757-CATS.

## Coach heads Down Under

Ohio head swimming and diving coach Greg Werner will be the team leader of USA Swimming at the 2001 Goodwill Games in Brisbane, Australia, in August and September.



Greg Werner

"I am privileged to have been offered the position," says Werner, the 2000 Mid-American Conference Women's Swimming Coach of the Year.

"This is a result of the Ohio Swimming and Diving team's efforts and proves that our swimmers have not gone unnoticed."

Werner held the same position for the 1999 World University Games in Mallorca, Spain, and the 1998 Goodwill Games in New York City.

## Bicentennial Campaign reaches coast to coast

By Paula Thomas

**O**n the surface, Las Vegas, Nevada, and Athens, Ohio, have little in common. But considering what's riding on the success of Ohio University's Bicentennial Campaign, it's easy to realize the value of tapping the resources of such diverse locales.

Alumni Association board member Louis Overstreet, BSCE '67, is one of those resources. The Las Vegas Urban Chamber of Commerce's executive director hosted a campaign reception at Bally's Las Vegas in April that drew about 40 alumni. Ohio University President Robert Glidden and Assistant Vice President for Development Glen Kerkian.

Overstreet's counterparts have been hard at work in Los Angeles, New York City, Boston, Dallas and Columbus, where volunteers have organized several targeted events to spread the enthusiasm following this past November's public kickoff of the Bicentennial Campaign. The campaign seeks to raise more than \$200 million by 2004, when the University will mark the 200th anniversary of its founding. So far, gifts and commitments total more than \$123 million.

"We were pleased from a couple of standpoints," Overstreet said of the Las Vegas gathering. "We had alumni representing every decade from the 1940s through the 1990s. We're also hoping that it leads to the rejuvenation of an alumni chapter here."

In a city as bustling as Las Vegas, residents sometimes tend to hunker down in their own worlds, Overstreet said. Connecting with others through their association with Ohio University was a welcome change.

"People really appreciated the chance to get together," he said.

That same kind of camaraderie was evident recently in Columbus and Cleveland, where a pair of April events helped raise campaign awareness and encourage donor support. One was the Columbus campaign kickoff, held at the Dublin home of Robert and Peggy Walter, both of whom graduated in 1967. The second was a campaign event for the George V. Voinovich Center for Leadership

ohio university since 1804



The Bicentennial Campaign

and Public Affairs at the Hudson home of M. Lee, AB '57, and John Ong.

Volunteers who serve on advancement committees for each of the University's colleges and units are contacting alumni and friends to raise campaign awareness.

Jeph Martin, AB '70, and his wife, Zoe Bahm Martin, BS '70, brought the campaign to northern California when they hosted a dinner in Palo Alto. With so much to share about new initiatives and the accomplishments of faculty and students, Glidden said he had his hands full answering the many questions of alumni and friends.

"It is always exciting to meet graduates who are enthusiastic about their alma mater," Glidden said. "I can't count the number of times that I've been told, 'Those were the happiest years of my life!' People express warm feelings about Ohio University, some of them people who've not been on campus for 20 or 30 years."

In Los Angeles, Nancy Haag, AB '78, opened her home one afternoon.

"I have fond memories of Ohio University and all of the wonderful friendships I still cherish today," she said. "Hosting the event was one way I felt I could assist the University in its campaign fund-raising efforts. I really enjoyed the day and sharing the Ohio University spirit with my fellow alumni. It was well worth the effort, and I encourage all my fellow alumni to get involved in any way they can. I think they will enjoy it."

*Paula Thomas is Ohio University's director of development communications.*

## How you can participate in the Bicentennial Campaign

There are several ways to take part in the Bicentennial Campaign that match your personal circumstances and interests.

### Cash gifts

Gifts of cash are available for immediate use by the University and usually are fully deductible for donors who itemize. Checks should be made payable to The Ohio University Foundation, P.O. Box 869, Athens, Ohio 45701-0869. Please be sure to indicate on the memo section of your check where you would like your gift directed. Contact Larry Lafferty.

### Credit card

To make a gift using your Visa, MasterCard or American Express card, call 1-800-592-FUND.

### Pledges

Pledges are gift commitments made over a period of time according to a prearranged payment schedule. To make your pledge, call 1-800-592-FUND or visit the Web [www.ohio.edu/campaign/pledge.html](http://www.ohio.edu/campaign/pledge.html).

### Matching gifts

Gifts to educational institutions often are matched by businesses and corporations. Contact your employer's human resource office for information.

### Major gifts

Major gifts must be pledged on or before Dec. 31, 2004, and paid within five years to be counted in the campaign. Gift designation is at the donor's discretion. Contact Glen Kerkian or Molly Tampke.

### Planned gifts

Planned gifts are made through an estate-planning device such as a unitrust, charitable lead trust or simple bequest. Contact Robert Conrad or Kelli Bell.

### Stock transfer/e-trade

Stock transfers may be made at any time, with valuation made on the day the stock is received. Contact Susan Downard or Kelli Bell in advance to specify and confirm a stock gift designation.

### To reach us

To contact staff members listed above or get more information, call 1-800-592-FUND, send an e-mail to [giving@ohio.edu](mailto:giving@ohio.edu), check the Web at [www.ohio.edu/campaign/](http://www.ohio.edu/campaign/) or write to Office of Development, 308 McGuffey Hall, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701.

# Hard work, high standards

## Fortune 100 CEO remains committed to his University

By Mary Alice Casey



Robert Walter, BSME '67

### The Walter file

**His family:** Despite his business and philanthropic obligations, Walter says his first commitment always has been to his family. He and his wife, Peggy, have three grown sons — Matthew, Blane and Peter — and three grandchildren.

**Cardinal Health:** Walter founded the company as a food wholesaler in 1971. Through internal growth and more than 30 acquisitions, Cardinal has expanded to pharmaceutical distribution; health-care product manufacturing; distribution and consulting services; drug delivery systems development; and more. The company occupies the No. 1 or 2 market position in every product or service it offers.

**Hardest business lesson:** "You cannot tolerate people who lack character; you cannot change people's values."

**Advice for today's students:** "If you hustle, you will get ahead."

From Robert Walter's office in Dublin, Ohio, two walls of windows look out on a magnificent stand of oaks and maples and the growing northwest Columbus skyline. Family pictures dot the walls and desktop.

This is the environment of a most successful businessman, devoted husband, involved father and committed Ohio University alumnus.

Walter is chairman and CEO of Cardinal Health Inc., a Fortune 100 company with annualized revenues of \$38 billion. His commitments extend to 45,000 employees worldwide, many of them fellow alumni.

He also is a member of the boards of trustees of Ohio University and Battelle

Memorial Institute and the boards of directors of Bank One, Infinity Broadcasting and Viacom. In February, the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce presented him with its highest honor, the Christopher Columbus Award.

Yet Walter describes himself as a private person. He shuns interviews and prefers quiet time with his family to any other activity. He is not reserved, though, about his conviction that a good education, high ethics and hard work provide the strongest foundation for success.

And he sets a good example.

Born and raised in Columbus, Walter arrived at Ohio University in 1963. He graduated summa cum laude in December 1967 with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering.

"I worked hard at Ohio University," says Walter, who held a job in the engineering labs, served on student council and was a member of

Sigma Chi fraternity. "I never missed one class. I still had a lot of fun, but I never missed a class. Even my wife thought I was crazy."

Three months before he graduated, Walter married his grade school sweetheart, Peggy McGreevey Walter, BFA '67. After working briefly as a design engineer in Columbus, he decided to pursue an MBA. His application to Harvard Business School was supported by then-University President Vernon Alden, a former Harvard dean.

"I have a lot of loyalty to Ohio University for a lot of reasons, including the help given to me by Vern Alden," Walter says. Alden's encouragement — and the generosity of scholarship donors who provided support for Walter's education — helped inspire his impressive commitment to assist others.

The Robert and Margaret Walter Endowed Scholarship, established in 1991, has provided 52 students with scholarships. And this past fall, the Walters announced a donation of \$5 million to help finance a state-of-the-art classroom building at Richland Avenue and South Green Drive. The \$10 million building is targeted for completion in 2004.

Dick Brown, BSC '69 and HON '96, was encouraged by Walter to become a Sigma Chi. Today, the two men have something else in common: They both lead Fortune 100 companies. Brown is the CEO of EDS, the world's second-largest computer services provider.

"You could tell back then that Bob had the capacity to deal with complexity, to sort things out, to prioritize — all qualities you need to have if you're going to lead a Fortune 100 company," Brown says.

Loyalty must be another attribute.

"As you become successful, you have an obligation to give back to the things that helped make you successful," says Walter, who was granted an honorary doctoral degree by the University in 1997, the same year he began a nine-year term on the Board of Trustees. "I've gotten a lot of really nice rewards."

Mary Alice Casey is editor of Ohio Today.



# Recent graduates have golden opportunity

By Sally Jeffery

**E**rik Roush left Ohio University two years ago, but he hasn't let the place leave his heart.

There is a framed picture of the College Green hanging in his Columbus apartment. He carries an Ohio University money clip in his pocket. And in the office where he works as an aide for state Rep. Derrick Seaver, an Attack Cat occupies a prominent spot on his desk.

All are daily reminders of a wonderful time of his life.

"The University gave me life experiences and learning experiences. I made a lot of great friends," says Roush, who in 1999 received a bachelor's degree in political science from the Honors Tutorial College and a master's in public administration.

While on campus, Roush immersed

himself in activities, serving on Student Senate and as a student member of the Board of Trustees.

"I learned a lot about what it takes to run a multi-million dollar institution," he says. "The experience was invaluable."

It was a sense of indebtedness for that exposure that compelled Roush to volunteer as chair of a new giving society specifically for recent graduates.

The GOLD Club —

short for Graduates of the Last Decade — was created specifically with alumni like Roush in mind, says Larry Lafferty, who oversees annual giving programs and special campaigns.

"Many people who have just graduated are starting a career or paying off student loans," Lafferty says. "The

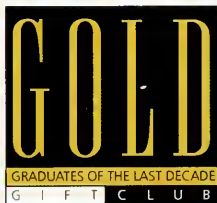
GOLD Club recognizes lower levels of giving and enables alumni to stay linked with the University."

Graduates of the past one to five years who make a gift of \$250 or more annually, or graduates of the past six to 10 years who give \$500 or more, become members of the GOLD Club.

They also are members of the Trustees' Academy, Ohio University's most prestigious giving society, during the year of their gift.

"We are forming long-term relationships," Lafferty says. "This is a way alumni who feel strongly about the University can give something back and make a difference."

*Sally Jeffery is a freelance writer living in Athens.*



## TRUSTEES' ACADEMY



**Trustees' Academy membership offers an opportunity to shape the accomplishments of Ohio University by pledging financial support to ensure the University's**

**future. Here is a list of new members.**

### JOHN C. BAKER COUNCIL

(Minimum: \$100,000 cash/\$300,000 deferred)

- Anonymous
- CNN Television, College of Communication, E.W. Scripps School of Journalism
- Estate of Franklin Whitmore, Franklin E. Whitmore Engineering Scholarship
- Honeywell International, gift in kind, Ohio University-Southern
- John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, College of Communication, Knight Ohio Program in Editing and Editing Education and Knight Fellowship in Newsroom Graphics Management
- Cruse and Virginia Patton Moss, Peden Stadium Expansion Project
- Thomas E. and Betsy Wheeler, Manasseh Cutler Scholars Program for Russ College

### WILLIAM H. SCOTT CIRCLE

(Minimum: \$25,000 cash/\$75,000 deferred)

- Advanced Drainage Systems Inc., ADS Civil Engineering Scholarship
- Stefania Denbow, The Carl H. Denbow Fund for Graduate Study in Mathematics
- Jeffrey F. Lenihan, '85, Victory With Honor and Sports Administration Program
- Edward and Carolyn M., '79, Sabatino, Edward and Carolyn Sabatino Memorial Scholarship
- Doug and Laura, '79, Wheat, College of Arts and Sciences

### MARGARET BOYD SOCIETY

(Minimum: \$15,000 cash/\$45,000 deferred)

- Kelli L. Bell, '95, Honors Tutorial College
- Charles and Gail Bird, Undergraduate Research Support Fund/regional campuses
- Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Crum, Dr. Arthur L. Vorhies Memorial Scholarship/Chillicothe Campus
- Suzanne Ryan Curran Dalston, '68, Political Science Department and Thomas Ewing Alumni Society Visiting Lecturer Program
- The Electric Power Equipment Co. Foundation, Greek Leadership Academy Endowment Fund
- Bob Evans Farms Inc., Kids on Campus
- Steve Flaherty, Clayton and Keely Flaherty

Appalachian Heritage Scholarship and the Sarah A. Flaherty Minority and Regional Campus Scholarship

- James W. and Elaine Fonseca, Zanesville Campus
- Norman and Maryann, '77, Garber, School of Hearing, Speech and Language Sciences
- Mark A. Gibson, '74, University College
- Sam Gorton, '91, '93, and Colleen Carow Gorton, '93, '97, designation to be determined annually
- N. Victor and Elaine Goodman, The Elaine and Victor Goodman Scholarship for Research in Government Relations and Contemporary History
- Mike, '84, and Teresa Millay, Sports Administration Program
- James W. and Jane R. Newton, Ohio University Eastern Scholarship Fund
- Sun Publications, Charles L. Scott Scholarship
- Darren, '89, and Jennifer, '95, Toms, Sports Administration/Facility Management Program
- Michelle Wells, '97, Sports Administration and Facility Management Professorship, College of Health and Human Services
- Julia Zimmerman and John Meade, University Libraries and Honors Tutorial College

**For more information on the Trustees' Academy, contact Susan Downard, 308 McGuffy Hall, Athens, Ohio, 45701, or visit the Web at [www.ohio.edu/development/raster.htm](http://www.ohio.edu/development/raster.htm)**



# Graffiti wall offers avenue for expression

By Melody Sands

Impassioned pleas to end the Vietnam War, heartfelt sentiments of love, even marriage proposals have emblazoned the cement block wall that sweeps around the west end of Mulberry Street near the Richland Avenue bridge. Student muralists announce new Greek pledges, invite the public to movies and sports events and advocate diversity, gay rights and recycling in 15-foot letters that run the length of the 40-foot graffiti wall.

Sororities and fraternities tout painting projects as a worthwhile bonding experience. Late at night under the cover of darkness, serving on a bristle brigade seems to offer the chance to get away with something you shouldn't. But actually, the University is a good sport about the hundreds of new messages that appear on the wall, as if by magic, overnight. There are no written rules but instead an unspoken understanding that common sense is expected: Don't paint the sidewalk or the bridge railings. And don't track paint into campus buildings.

So at a time when cities elsewhere are spending thousands on graffiti-resistant paint or cleanup equipment and crews, the University embraces such creative expression — but only on the wall. And although campus police occasionally have to remind would-be Jackson Pollocks where their modern art belongs, there is no record of anyone being arrested for excessive expression in unauthorized locations near the wall.

When Super Hall was torn down from the adjacent lot in 1976, the retaining wall was left in place and has been used as a billboard and creative canvas ever since. Earlier, though, anti-war sentiments painted during the late '60s likely represent the first use of the wall for political declarations.

A new version of the wall is part of the design of nearby Bentley Hall, which is undergoing a renovation and expansion project set for completion in 2002. In the meantime, the wall has been replaced by a plywood imposter

mates Dennis Rapp, owner of a local paint store. All-night campouts to claim the wall and keep it from being painted over by another group become minisocials that connect paint patrols. Unwritten rules of courtesy

mean a message usually gets two to three good days of play. Interestingly, there's never been a serious battle over the right to propagandize, advertise or stylize on a mural space that even Michelangelo might have appreciated.

Painter Ocean Eiler, BSC '01, calls the graffiti wall "a really positive outlet." He's an expressive artist, but his exuberance around campus landed him a misdemeanor conviction in Municipal Court. He is working off his sentence by

providing 300 hours of community service to Campus Recycling. Determined to use Eiler's talents to the fullest, Refuse and Recycling Manager Ed Newman, BS '81, had his "volunteer" paint a message on the wall to promote a recycling contest.

When he's painting for pleasure, Eiler uses about 40 cans of spray paint to create a free-form piece featuring typography and random names. He acknowledges that using the wall as a canvas can turn into an artistic battle if someone paints a bigger or better piece over his work. Recently, Eiler says he was trumped by the creator of a simple, yet beautiful, three-color drawing.

"I just left a sticky note beside it that said, 'You win.'"

Melody Sands, MSJ '98, is a freelance writer living in Athens.



Ocean Eiler, BSC '01, spreads the word about a campus recycling contest on the graffiti wall.

that can be used by passionate painters. (For a look at the wall coming down, check the Web at [www.athens.com](http://www.athens.com).)

"It will be in a similar position, but we'll make it a little nicer," says John Kotowski, assistant vice president for facilities planning.

That may seem like a lot of trouble for a graffiti wall, but Kotowski thinks it's a sensible approach.

"We have a philosophy that if we don't replace the wall, graffiti will happen elsewhere," he says. "Now it's contained and manageable."

But control isn't the only factor.

"The wall is a unique part of the OU culture. It's so intertwined in the recent past of the University," Kotowski

notes. "It's been rare that things are put on the wall that are offensive. I've seen people thanked, events promoted, anniversaries celebrated and someone proposing. The work is creative and talented a lot of times."

It takes about two gallons of paint to cover the last group's work and another two to add a new message, esti-



Ocean Eiler uses up to 40 cans of spray paint for a typical graffiti piece.

## Stories to share?

We'd like to run some accounts of your experiences painting the wall or memories of clever things you've seen on it through the years. Drop a short note to Graffiti Wall Memories, *Ohio Today*, 164 Scott Quad, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701. We'd be happy to return any photos you'd like to share, too.

# XFL prez takes his work to the extreme

By Joe Donatelli

**B**asil DeVito pulled off his first — and — he laughs — “greatest” marketing coup as a 24-year-old Ohio University senior.

He co-managed a bar at the corner of Court and State streets that had changed its name to The Junction.

Heard of it?

Well, few had in the fall of 1975. So DeVito and partner Bob Smith concocted a drink special that eventually evolved into the “Quad Night” tradition.

Nowadays, DeVito is in charge of stirring the most potent mix of football competition in sports history. As XFL president, he oversees operation of the controversial \$100 million joint venture between NBC and the World Wrestling Federation.

While WWE founder Vince McMahon is the public face of the first-year football league, DeVito, 47, works behind the scenes, hiring front office personnel and coordinating television coverage. The hours are long and the critics are absolutely brutal, but each day is an adventure.

“What I’d like most is a day off,” DeVito says with a laugh three weeks into the season.

So how does a guy who tended bar through college go from slinging



Basil DeVito, BSJ '76 and MSA '78, is president of the XFL.

brews to slinging bruise? Through Ohio University’s sports administration program.

After high school, DeVito ventured from The Bronx to Athens — sight unseen — to play baseball. He walked on, mostly sat on the bench, but he graduated with a journalism degree in 1976. He went to work at Procter & Gamble in Chicago, but “the lure of the Athens lifestyle” brought him back the next spring as an assistant baseball coach.

That summer, he enrolled in the sports ad program, without which, he says, “it never would have happened for me.” DeVito graduated from the program in 1978, then landed an internship working under NFL Com-

missioner Pete Rozelle.

After serving as a marketing director with the NBAs Indiana Pacers and a TV producer in Indianapolis, he hooked up in 1985 with McMahon, who was creating his pro wrestling empire. “I was lucky to get in on the ground floor of an elevator going to the penthouse,” DeVito says.

His 15-year rise through the WWF as director of marketing and television and eventually as chief executive officer mirrored

professional wrestling’s ascent in pop culture. He left the WWF twice to pursue opportunities in the horse racing industry but returned in 1999 when McMahon pitched him the XFL job.

In addition to spending time with his wife, Tina, and 9-year-old twins, Alexander and Zachary, in their Connecticut home, he’s launched a football league and penned a book, “WWE Wrestlemania: The Official Insider’s History,” in the same year.

Mostly, DeVito asks, “How do I top that?”

If the fledgling XFL outlasts The Junction, he won’t have to.

*Joe Donatelli, BSJ '98, is a sports reporter for Scripps Howard News Service in Washington, D.C.*

## Crash course in daytime drama and real life

*Hundreds of students serve internships each year to gain career experience and get a feel for the working world. This is a first-person account senior journalism major Sara Groves wrote during her internship in New York City from January to March.*

Last quarter, I lived in a world of midterms, final projects and group presentations. This quarter, my contemporaries include long-lost twins, amnesiacs and folks who come back from the dead.

I’m spending winter quarter interning with Procter & Gamble Productions in New York City, where I work for “As the World Turns” and “Guiding Light” in casting and publicity.

A soap opera set is fast-paced because five new episodes are taped



Sara Groves

each week. That means there are new parts to be cast — from extras to lead roles — every day. I’ve assisted with the auditions of dozens of 2-year-old twins and hundreds of actors applying for a single role.

The ambitious taping schedule, constantly evolving cast and half-dozen magazines dedicated solely to soap operas keep the publicity department on task, too. Requests can come from reporters with media outlets ranging from a Pittsburgh newspaper profiling an actor from its region to the TV show “Extra,” which planned a story on Julianne Moore and inquired about her early days on “As the World Turns.” I’ve been able to attend a *Soup Opera Digest* photo shoot, respond to charities’ requests for autographed

scripts and photos and write news releases about cast members.

One thing I love is the air of excitement. At orientation, the important element surprise plays in TV today was stressed. I was told I would be seeing and hearing things that would need to be kept secret — unless I wanted to find myself on a plane back to Ohio.

Each day truly is unique, and sometimes a little crazy. For instance, one day I was assigned to play with 2-year-old twins to determine if they were comfortable enough away from Mom and Dad to start acting careers. Perhaps that was good preparation for spring quarter in Athens and the world that awaits after I graduate in June!

*Sara Groves is chief of Ohio University Media Services’ student news bureau this academic year.*



# Alumni authors

**P**eople worldwide were captivated by the ordeal of Jerri Cahill Nielsen, BS '74, a doctor serving at a South Pole station in 1998 and '99 when she found a lump in her breast.

**"Ice Bound"** by Nielsen and Maryanne Volders (\$23.95, hardback, Talk Miramax Books) is Nielsen's first-hand account of her experiences.

The physician consulted by e-mail with doctors in the States, performed a biopsy on herself and underwent chemotherapy at the Pole — where temperatures reach 100 degrees below zero — before a daring rescue in October 1999 by the Air National Guard. Nielsen, who today is cancer-free, was featured on "Primetime Live," "Oprah" and other programs.

**"The Language of the Land: Living Among the Hadzabe in Africa"** by James Stephenson, BA '93, (\$24.95, hardback, St. Martin's Press). While working in Africa, this New York author had a dream that inspired him to seek out the Hadzabe tribe, one of the last communities of hunter-gatherers in Africa. He decided to spend a year with the tribe, chronicling his journey as he hunted for food with them, participated in their ceremonies, consulted with their medicine man and learned their myths. "My search to find the Hadzabe was a journey greater than myself. I was chosen to follow this path," Stephenson says.

**"Sticks"** by William McMillen, MA '72, PhD '76, (\$22.95, hardback, Sleeping Bear Press). Set in a fictional small town about 40 miles northwest of Athens, this humorous novel revolves around a famous 75-year-old golf course called The Candlesticks. The owners of the course want to redesign it to accommodate a housing development, but historical interests in the town prefer to preserve it. "The title not only is

a slang term for golf clubs and an abbreviation for The Candlesticks, but it is the nickname of the main character, Sticks Bergman," McMillen says.

**"Out of Grace"** by Toni Wilbarger, BSJ '84, (\$14.99, paperback, ACW Press). This Christian fiction novel tells the story of a young woman during World War II who carries the burden of a teen-age pregnancy, a disparaging preacher father and an abusive, alcoholic husband. Madelene Quaid eventually finds friends at a boarding-house who show her the true qualities of family and God's love. "I want my readers to come away feeling educated, entertained and touched," Wilbarger says.

**"Blue Spots! Yellow Spots!"** by Jenean Atwood, MFA '96, and John Atwood (\$7.99, paperback, Milligan Books). This father-daughter team's first foray into the world of children's literature teaches a gentle lesson in respect for diversity. The book's characters, called Frazzies, realize that

what's on the inside is far more important than physical appearance. "It is important that parents read to their children, so the joy of reading is passed on to future generations," Jenean Atwood says.

**"New Fields and Other Stones: On a Child's Death"** by Saul Bennett, BSJ '57, (\$19.95, hardback, Archer Books). When Bennett came to college, his goal was to become a newspaper reporter to support his true love, creative writing. Armed with a degree, he worked in journalism and later moved into public relations, rising to president of a national public relations group. It wasn't until 1994, however, after his daughter died from a brain aneurysm, that Bennett returned to his passion and began to write poems upon the advice of OU Professor of Journalism Michael Bugeja. This book emerged from his boundless grief.

—Melissa Rake

## Speaking on Bart's behalf

It's been 13 years since Nancy Cartwright landed the role of Bart Simpson's voice. Although he hasn't matured much through the years, Cartwright's new book, **"My Life As a 10-Year-Old Boy"** (\$19.95, hardback, Hyperion Books), proves that she has.

Cartwright, who attended Ohio University from 1976 to 1978, describes her evolution as a voice-over actor on "The Simpsons," the longest-running sitcom still on the air. In an enthusiastic voice, she combines colorful anecdotes from her career with descriptions of the animation production process.

"I realized I had to do the book because I get so much fan mail, and I'm always being asked the same questions," Cartwright said from her California home during a recent phone interview. "And if anyone is inspired by my journey and it awakens an artist in me, then I've done something."

A production company owner and mother of two, Cartwright says voice-over actors are as creative as traditional actors. She first recognized this while watching famous "Simpsons" guest stars, including Danny DeVito and Meryl Streep, become immersed in their roles.

A native of Kettering, Ohio, Cartwright's extroverted nature and unique voice inspired her to participate in speech competitions in high school. Success in national tournaments helped her land an Ohio University scholarship.

In the fall of 1977, her sophomore year at OU, she met famous voice-over actor Daws Butler, aka Huckleberry Hound and Yogi Bear. Under his tutelage, Cartwright cultivated her technique. She soon transferred to UCLA to study one-on-one with Butler, who introduced her to influential people in the business.

When auditioning for "The Simpsons," her plan was to try out for the role of Bart's sister, Lisa. But when writers described Bart as "devious, underachieving, school-hating, irreverent and clever," Cartwright knew he was a better fit.

"Bart represents the bad boy in all of us," she says. "The satire and humor in the writing has a truth to it, and we can watch it and laugh at ourselves."

—Amanda York



## 1930s

**Homer Hacker, BFA '39**, of Kettering, Ohio, is a watercolor artist who was commissioned to paint an impression of the White House for the official 2001 White House calendar. Hacker has shown his work in many exhibitions throughout the United States since 1963 and is a member of the Ohio Watercolor Society.

## 1940s

**William Benson, BS '47**, won two national distance-running championships in Boston last year. He also won three national outdoor championships in Oregon and two New Jersey state titles. Benson is ranked first in the world in the mile run for competitors ages 80 to 84, first in the United States in the 800-

meter, 1,500-meter and 5,000-meter and second in the 3,000-meter. He and his wife, **Annette Mann Benson, BSED '47**, live in Valley Stream, N.Y.

## 1950s

**David Byers, BSCE '51**, of Westerville, Ohio, is the author of "The Federal Valley Railroad Company and Its Ancestors, 1845-1954" (\$23, hardback, Integrity Press), a history of early railroads in southern Ohio.

**Frank Dilley, AB '52, MA '53**, received an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Walden University in Minneapolis for his accomplishments in graduate distance education during his 30 years with the university.

**Nancy Lanphear Appunn, BA '53**, is a trustee for Lakeland Presbyterian Homes, located in Lakeland, Fla. She also is business manager at the Maximo Presbyterian Church and manages Communications Institute, a business developed by her late husband, **George Appunn, BA '56**.

**Timothy Hume Behrendt, BSED '59**, co-coordinator of Shawangunk Nature Preserve in Gold Brook, N.Y., received a U.S. Congressional Citation for his community leadership and environmental efforts. He recently retired after 30 years as minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Utica.

**Jim Spector, BFA '59**, retired as senior vice president of Cathennes Stores Corp. in Memphis after 29 years of service. He is active in the United Way of the Midlands, the Bavarian Village Property Owners Association and The Rebounders, the University of Memphis men's basketball booster group. He and his wife, Kathie, have two children and four grandchildren.

## 1960s

**Thomas Boster, MS '60, PhD '66**, president of the consulting engineer and scientist firm Boster, Kobayashi & Associates in Livermore, Calif., recently met with Edward Teller, one of the most well-known physicists of the 20th century, at Teller's Stanford University office. Boster and Teller worked together on X-ray lasers at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory in the 1970s.

**Patricia Lahrmer Ross, BSJ '61**, of New York City teaches writing classes to retired people at various universities. Two of Ross' personal essays have been published in *The New York Times*, and she is working on her memoir, "Growing Up in a Small Ohio Town."

**Richard Thompson, BSJ '61**, retired after 31 years at General Motors Communications in Detroit and formed a consulting group that serves advanced automotive technology companies. He and his wife, Manann, live in Bloomfield Hills, Mich.

**Janice Fisher Ramsdell, BSED '62**, received the 1999-2000 Outstanding Faculty Award from North Central State College in Mansfield, Ohio.

**Richard Woolison, BSED '62, MED '63**, Ohio University assistant professor of recreation and sport sciences, was inducted into the Ohio High School Athletic Association Officials Hall of Fame in May 2000. He has been the official timer for all Ohio University home football and men's basketball games since 1966.

**Patricia Gels D'Alessio, BSED '63, MSED '67**, retired in 1998 after 35 years with Miami Dade Public Schools. D'Alessio now is working part time at Chaminade High School in Hollywood, Fla.

**Robert Stout, AB '63**, a teacher in the Cy-Fair school district in Houston, received a

## A 21st-century view

Seven alumnae from the 1940s era traveled to campus from all corners of the country this past fall to rekindle old friendships and reminisce about their college days. And what they saw surprised them.

"It's a whole different world," said **Alliyene Ingall DeFede, AB '45**, of Bakersfield, Calif., after a day of touring her alma mater.

DeFede and six other college friends — **Anna Kibble Everly, ELED '44, BSED '45**, of Nashville;

**Marcille Wenger Jackson, BSED '44**, of Jacksonville, Fla.; **Grace Powers Madan, AB '44**, of Coral Gables, Fla.; **Louise Goerke Miller, BSED '45**, of Vincennes, Ind.; **Virginia Lesh Ramsey, KP '44**, of North Canton, Ohio; and **Jeane Ingall McCormick** of Findlay, Ohio, who attended in 1943-44 — realized a longtime goal in November by reuniting on campus.

They visited Lindley Hall, where they lived as students, and walked down Court Street, marveling at the modern bookstores and hagel shops. But nothing, they said, has changed more than the nature of the student population.

"We had a unique experience," Jackson said. By the time the women were sophomores and juniors, most of the male students on campus had been drafted for World War II.

"After the men left, everything changed in the fall," DeFede said. "There was no football, no basketball."

Many female students, however, spent their extracurricular hours playing basketball, hockey and volleyball and keeping up the Sigma Theta Gamma tradition of playing football in the center of Park Place.

The alumnae loved reminiscing about their college days so much that they've decided to reunite on campus this summer.

"It was a truly fantastic experience," McCormick said. "It was as if we had never been apart."

— *Kate Fitzgerald*



Clockwise from top left are Jeane Ingall McCormick, Alliyene Ingall DeFede, Marcille Wenger Jackson, Grace Powers Madan, Louise Goerke Miller, Anna Kibble Everly and Virginia Lesh Ramsey.

# me family advice

When **Jeff Grossman** became a lawyer, he thought his undergraduate degree in journalism might be useful in writing legal documents. Now he's applying his degree in a way he never imagined.

Jeff, BSJ '68, and his son, Andrew Grossman, also a lawyer, are the regular co-hosts of "Family Matters," a talk show on Newsradio 610 WTVN in Columbus.

The show, which airs every Sunday from 4 to 6 p.m., offers advice to callers with questions about family relations law.

Jeff and son are in practice at the Columbus Law Offices in Columbus, a firm that deals exclusively in matrimonial and family law. For Jeff, a lawyer for 28 years, it was a surprise to mesh his broadcast journalism background with something he never saw coming.

"It never dawned on me," he says. "When I made the decision to go to law school, I thought my journalism degree would come in handy just for writing legal briefs."

Jeff's undergraduate training also inspired him last year to begin writing a family law-related column called "Family Matrimony!" for *The Columbus Dispatch*.

The Grossmans received the offer to do a radio talk show after a chance meeting with WTVN afternoon talk show host John Corby. Corby's radio personality liked Jeff's voice and upbeat style and suggested a tryout for Jeff and his son. Their rapport and high energy led to the creation of Ohio's only father-son talk show, the first of which aired in January.

As far as working conditions go, this is about as good as it gets," says Andrew, who earned a law degree from Capital University in 1996. "People come out of the woodwork on Sunday afternoons, and Jeff anonymously helps people ask questions they may not ask in person. It's a lot of fun."

Jeff's dad agrees. "The best part of doing this show is doing it with my son," Jeff says. "We are both busy with our work and have very active lives. The show gives us the chance to spend quality time together."



— *Kelee Garrison Riesbeck*

Korea 2000 Summer Fellowship to spend three weeks studying and traveling in the country.

**Alan Weinberg, BBA '64**, is principal at the professional services firm Ernst & Young in Atlanta. He and his wife, **Mary Ellin, BSJD '65**, have two daughters and two grandchildren.

**William Anthony, BBA '65**, is the Carl DeSantis Professor of Business Administration in Florida State University's College of Business.

**Richard Brown, BBA '65**, a Cleveland attorney, is secre-

tary of the Beta Theta Pi Foundation board of directors.



**Patricia Paul, BSJD '65**, retired after 30 years as a librarian at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. An associate professor, Paul was the first at the university to teach a course on the Internet. She plans to finish her doctoral degree in educational administration at the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

**Melanie Smith Riley, BSJD '65**, of Mansfield, Ohio,

recently retired after working 30 years as an elementary school teacher.

**Rance Velapoldi, PHD '65**, retired in 1999 from the National Institute of Standards and Technology and recently moved to Norway, where he is a consultant on chemical measurements. He received the Department of Commerce's Gold Medal in 1997. Velapoldi welcomes e-mails at [velapoldi@netcom.no](mailto:velapoldi@netcom.no).

**Thomas Berliner, BA '66**, of Dallas is vice president at Peer3, a division of Technology Solutions Co.

**Macie Rayburn Blair-Luster, BSJD '67**, recently retired as a teacher in Indian River County Florida Schools and now lives in Franklin Furnace, Ohio.

**Elizabeth Poulson Martello, MFA '67**, is arts coordinator for the Department of Recreation and Parks in Alpharetta, Ga.

**Diane Schlumbohm Rice, BSHE '67**, an educational consultant for the National School Lunch Program at the Indiana Department of Education, recently earned the school food service and nutrition specialist credential.

**Suzanne Dickson Albert, BS '68, MA '71**, earned a juris doctor degree from Roger Williams University's Ralph R. Papitto School of Law in May 2000.

**G. David Smith, PHD '68**, a senior research scientist, is part of a team at the Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute in Buffalo, N.Y., that was awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Richard W. Goode and Mae Stone Goode Trust for a research project focusing on developmental biology and hypertension.

**Gary Hess, BBA '69**, is president and chief operating officer at Comfort Systems USA, a firm that manages commercial mechanical systems construction and control companies across the country. He and his wife, **Susan Bailey Hess, BSJ '67**, live in

Potomac, Md. Their son, **David Hess, BSC '00**, is attending law school at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

**Steve Matela, BSC '69**, is manager of network and cable affiliations for [television.com](http://television.com) in Los Angeles. His wife, **Roberta Sciarino Matela, BSHE '71**, is vice president and managing editor of ASN Publishing in San Marcos, Calif.

## 1970s

**Stephen Kovacs, MED '70**, who served as an assistant professor of military science at Ohio University from 1964 to 1967 and 1968 to 1970, recently retired from the U.S. Army and the Polk County (Fla.) school system.

**D. Jeffery Parkhill, BFA '70**, is president of Hughes Associates Architects in Roanoke, Va.

**Arthur Stellar, MED '70, PHD '73**, superintendent of Kingston School District in New York, and his wife, Debbie Stellar, were selected by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board as Fulbright Exchange Administrators for 2000-01. Arthur Stellar is president of the North American Chapter of the World Council for Curriculum and Instruction and president/CEO of the High/Scope Educational Research Foundation.

**Marlene Adams Morris, BSJD '71**, of Cincinnati published a novel, "Lavender Blue," through [www.universe.com](http://www.universe.com).

**Richard Shoemaker, BSC '71**, director of real estate for Sears, Roebuck & Co., is a member of the Kolene Corp. board of directors in Detroit.

**John Roush, BSJD '72**, president of Centre College in Danville, Ky., is a member of the Presidents Council in Division III of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

**Thomas Hess, BSJD '73**, a partner with the Columbus law firm Buckingham, Doolittle & Burroughs, is included in the



2001-2002 edition of "The Best Lawyers in America."

**Charles McClenaghan, BGS '73**, of Frederick, Md., is vice president/regional manager for the northeast region of Triad Guaranty Insurance Corp. He is an attorney licensed in Ohio and Florida and recently served as president of the Mortgage Bankers Association of South Florida and as a member of the Federal National Mortgage Association's South Florida Advisory Board.

**Dianne Smith Coscarelli, AB '74**, a partner at Thompson Hine & Flory's Real Estate practice group in Cleveland, has been elected to the American College of Real Estate Lawyers. She and her husband, **Thomas Coscarelli, AB '74**, live in Shaker Heights, Ohio.

**Mary Ann Balcar Hastings, BSED '74**, and her husband, **Lance Hastings, MA '77, MED '74**, are missionaries in Key West, Fla., working with AIDS victims. She recently published the book "A Woman and a Homosexual Man: The Good Thunder in My Life."

**Robert Moran Jr., BSJ '74**, of Chandler, Ariz., received the National Association of Black Journalists Pioneer Award in Sports in August 2000.

**Robert Hails, BSC '75**, is director of distance education for the Walton College of Business Administration at the University of Arkansas.

**William Smith, BBA '75, MBA '76**, vice president of the Assurance Services Group of Meaden & Moore in Cleveland, received the Innovative User of Technology Award from the Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants.

**Jane Bates, BSED '76**, a teacher at Liberty Union-Thurston Elementary, and **Mary Ann Sheridan, BFA '75, MED '92**, a teacher at Tussing Elementary, both in Fairfield County, Ohio, have been named to the Governor's Teacher Advisory Committee.

**Michael Nachamkin, BMUS '76**, of Princeton, N.J., is president of Whitehall Industrial Properties, a company that acquires and develops industrial property throughout the northeastern United States.

**Kathryn Daft Reeder, BSED '76, MED '80**, who teaches first grade in Vincent, Ohio, earned national board certification in the early childhood/generalist area from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. She and her husband, **R. Douglas Reeder, BSEE '76, MS '77**, live in Vienna, W.Va.

**Anne Bill Foradori, BMUS '77**, is an associate professor at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

**Carolyn "Bitsy" Merriman Melton, BFA '77**, of Omaha is president of Corporate Health Group, a national health care consulting firm. She is co-author of "A Comprehensive Guide to Sales for Occupational Health" and regularly speaks about customer-focused marketing strategies, sales, leadership and customer service.

**Doug Drew, BSC '78**, of Phoenix is vice president of C-Cube.net, a national television news research and consulting firm.



**Lorene Johnston, MA '78**, was appointed by Ohio Gov. Bob Taft as a Jackson County Municipal Court judge. She and her husband, Keith Woolum, have a daughter, Kathleen, and live in Wellston, Ohio.



**Joyce Dorsey Kenner, BSED '78**, principal of the Whitney M. Young Magnet High School in Chicago, was named an outstanding educator by the Chicago Principals Association and the Chicago Board of Education. She also received the Phi Delta Kappa

Association Educator of the Year Award.

**Alita Jacobs Michael, BSC '78**, is a media buyer at Manheim Advertising in Cleveland.

**Charles Vinoverski, BBA '78**, is director of sales at The Gillette Co. in Boston.

**Paul Andrews, BFA '79**, a member of the San Antonio law firm Soules & Wallace, earned certification in civil trial law from the Texas Board of Legal Specialization and has been named a member of the Texas Bar College and a fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation.

**Roy Bentley, BGS '79, MA '81**, teaches English at the Ohio University-Zanesville campus. He and his wife, **Gloria Regalbutto, MA '74**, live in Newark, Ohio.

**Robert Fry, AB '79**, senior associate economist at DuPont in Washington, W.Va., was the keynote speaker at the fall 2000 meeting of the Commercial Development and Marketing Association in Marco Island, Fla.



**Veanise "Gina" Ruffin Moore, BSJ '79**, a former public information officer at the University of Cincinnati and radio news reporter, serves as spokes-

## Finding his heritage

Teachers can open their students' eyes to a world beyond classroom walls and change their lives forever. **Fred Shaw, AB '72**, would know. When he was in second grade, teacher Mary Lou Eppley affected his life with one simple conversation. She gave him his heritage.

"My teacher was concerned that a person who did not understand that it is special to be Indian might tell me about my heritage," says Shaw of Milford, Ohio.

Shaw's Native American heritage was not discussed within his family when he was young because of painful stereotypes, but Eppley thought Shaw needed to know. She knew of Shaw's ancestry because her family had helped to hide some of his family members during the 1830s when the U.S. government began forcing Native Americans to move west.

Now Shaw — a member of the Peckuwe Sept, one of the



five divisions of the Shawnee Nation United Remnant Band — shares stories of his people with audiences across the country. His role in the tribe is that of Olammapis, or truth-teller, meaning he is responsible for passing along his stories to the next generation. He recently spoke at the first national Native American storytelling festival, "On Native Ground," in Louisville, Ky.

But it wasn't his teacher who inspired him to begin storytelling. It was her daughter Nancy, who is now Shaw's wife and also a teacher.

"Nancy asked me to tell stories to her first-graders, and I was hooked," says Shaw, who also is a United Methodist minister. "I enjoy finding the openness in children's eyes. They are so willing to learn and to accept the gifts others who are different from them have to offer."

— Katie Fitzgerald

# Hitting it big with the Diamondbacks

After participating in the game of baseball from virtually every angle — as a player, coach and TV analyst — Ohio University alumnus **Bob Brenly** has become the Arizona Diamondbacks' second manager in franchise history.



Before Brenly, BSED '77, signed a three-year managerial contract this past fall, he served as an analyst for the FOX Network and for three seasons teamed up with Thom Brennaman, who attended Ohio University from 1982 to 1986, in the Diamondbacks' television booth. Brenly spent nine seasons in the major leagues, mostly as a catcher but also playing

first base, third base and the outfield. In 1984, he was named to the National League All-Star Team. He also was a member of the Giants' coaching staff for four seasons beginning in 1992.

At Ohio University, Brenly earned All-America honors in his senior season, tying Mike Schmidt's school-record 10 home runs.

woman for the City of Cincinnati.

**Timothy Neal, BSED '79**, is head athletic trainer at Syracuse University.

**Kimberly Ridge, BS '79**, recently finished her 22nd year teaching third grade at McArthur Elementary in Vinton County, Ohio.

**John Tatter, MA '79, PHD '84**, an English professor at Birmingham-Southern College, was recognized by the British Broadcasting Co.'s "Web-Guide" as having one of the best botanical garden sites on the Web. Check out the site at [panther.bsc.edu/~jtatter/stow.e.html](http://panther.bsc.edu/~jtatter/stow.e.html).

## 1980s

**Patrick Donadio, BSC '80, MBA '81**, of Columbus earned the designations of certified speaking professional from the National Speakers Association and master certified coach from the International Coach Federation.

**James Eley, BBA '80**, is a partner in the Columbus law office Arter & Hadden.



**Robert Linger, BSC '80**, is vice president and general manager of WTVT, a Fox TV station in Tampa, Fla. He and his wife, Ann, have two children.

**Michael Weil, BSJ '80**, recently became program director of [HVACRshowplace.com](http://HVACRshowplace.com), a virtual tradeshow for Penton Media Inc., after serving 20 years as senior editor of *Contracting Business Magazine*. He and his wife, **Laura Weil, BSED '80**, have two children, Marc and Dylan, and live in Cleveland.

**James Aton, PHD '81**, an English professor at Southern Utah University, published the book "River Flowing from the Sunrise: An Environmental History of the Lower San Juan."

**Jeffrey Bile, BSC '81, MS '82**, is a visiting instructor in communication this academic year at The College of Wooster.

**Michael Blevins, BGS '81**, an outpatient counselor at the Tri-County Mental Health and Counseling Center in Athens, recently passed the Ohio Counselor and Social Worker Board licensing exam and has been licensed as a professional clinical counselor. He and his wife, Diana Essman Blevins, are the parents of Joshua, Adam and Jessica.

**Ronnie Brown, BSIT '81**, is a reliability engineer for General Motors Corp. in Parma, Ohio.

**Deborah Hoy Herman, BSJ '81**, is the advertising director at Home Savings & Loan Co. in Youngstown, Ohio.

**John Penn, BS '81**, is district director of student achievement for Garfield County Schools in Colorado. He recently was included in "Who's Who Among America's Teachers."

**Michael Massa, BSC '82**, who represents a major aviation and aerospace corporation, has been featured in national publications regarding legal-aviation issues. He lives in southern Florida and has a screenplay under consideration by a Vancouver and California production studio.

**Andrew McCann, BSJ '82**, of Garden City, N.Y., is a vice president in Morgan Stanley Equity Research's editorial department. He also has been named Internet specialist for global Internet research and deputy managing editor for technology.

**Tara Leffler Harawa, BSED '83**, of Huber Heights, Ohio, is an elementary school teacher and the mother of four. She earned master's degrees in educational administration and counseling in 1986 and 1987.

**Rebecca Watkins, BFA '83**, a marketing communications writer in the services division at Marconi Inc. in Pittsburgh, earned a master's degree in corporate communications from Duquesne University last year.

**Valerie Weston, BBA '83**, of Raleigh, N.C., is vice president of human resources at Investors Title Insurance Co.

**Susan Novak Byrnes, BSC '84**, is owner and operator of Trenton Guest House, a bed and breakfast on Put-in-Bay Island in Lake Erie.

**Edwina Blackwell Clark, BSJ '84**, is editor/publisher of the *Hamilton (Ohio) Journal-News*, owned by Cox Ohio Publishing. Clark joined Cox in 1986 as a reporter for *The Dayton Daily News*. In 1994, she was named assistant metro editor and then served as assistant managing editor and product marketing manager. She and her husband, Bruce, have a daughter, Cierra.

**Herman Counts, AB '84**, of Reynoldsburg, Ohio, is vice president and manager of output operations for the East and Midwest regions at Bank One Corp.

**Gregory Sharpless, BSJ '84**, is editor-in-chief and associate publisher of *Digital Output* magazine in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

**Carl Byron, BA '85**, a captain in the U.S. Army Reserve and an emergency medical technician, is head athletic trainer for the North Carolina School for the Deaf. He lives in Hickory, N.C.

**Nicholas Gaskins, BSJ '85**, owns Bingenheimer Design Communications in Yellow Springs, Ohio. He and his wife, **Cris Duskey Gaskins, BBA '86**, have two children.

**Donna Grande, BSJ '85**, is co-director of the American Medical Association's SmokeLess States National Program Office in Chicago. SmokeLess States is a national initiative that promotes the reduction and prevention of tobacco use.



**Matthew Griffin, MFA '85**, a professional actor and singer, spent last summer in Medora, N.D., as host of the "Medora Musical," a patriotic salute to Theodore Roosevelt. He also was a guest artist in the Ohio University School of Music production of "Gondoliers," has taught at Ohio University, Olivet College and Ohio State University and was an assistant professor of theater arts at the University of Mississippi for five years. He and his companion, Jerry Chester, live in Athens.

**Charles Harrington, AB '85, PHD '91**, is assistant vice president for academic affairs at the University of Southern Indiana.

**Ron Mandelik, BBA '85**, of Vandalia, Ohio, is manager of information systems at Globe Products, a Dayton-based capital goods manufacturer.

**Paige Harmon Maston, BA '85**, is a senior compliance analyst at Anthem Life Insurance Co., and her husband, **Don Maston, BBA '86**, is a consultant programmer at Rapidigm

Inc. They have three sons, Norville, Thompson and David, and live in Columbus.

**Neal Wilson, BSC '85**, is assistant vice president of the corporate sponsorship group at New York City's Sesame Workshop, a nonprofit educational organization. He and his wife, Nancy, live in Montclair, N.J., and have two children, Leo and Ben.

**Brian Breittholz, BSJ '86, MED '88**, director of advancement for student affairs at Miami University, received the Interfraternity Recognition Award from Beta Theta Pi Fraternity. He also is director of national education for Phi Kappa Tau.

**Susan Irwin Brown, BSJ '86, MSA '88**, a distance learning specialist with the Ohio Learning Network in Centerville, Ohio, completed a doctorate in higher and adult education at the University of Memphis in fall 2000. She married Harold Brown in 1989.

**Jill Bable Geiger, BSJ '86**, is communications director at The Childhood League Center in Columbus.

**Joseph Kinn, BGS '86**, a supply chain coordinator for Carrier Air Conditioning, recently earned an MBA from Lemoine College in Syracuse, N.Y. He lives in Pulaski, N.Y., with his wife, Catherine, and their children, Jennifer and Paul.

**Scott Swan, BSED '86**, is director of student services at Kent State University's College of Nursing.

**Corinne Colbert, BSJ '87, MA '93**, and her husband, **Douglas Pettit, BA '93**, had their second son, Ethan Andrew, in April 2000. Their first son, Max, is 3. They live in Amesville, Ohio.

**David Meeks, BGS '87**, of Worthington, Ohio, and his twin brother, **Paul Meeks, BS '87**, of Canton, Ohio, were issued a patent last year for inventing a form-fitted industrial electric motor cover. The MotorCover by Worthington Products protects electric motors from overheating.

**James Piatt Jr., BSJ '87, MBA**

**'93**, is vice president of advancement at Mount Union College in Alliance, Ohio. He is a former assistant dean for development for the College of Communication and assistant director of admissions at Ohio University.

**Terence Stepney, BBA '87**, is a senior account executive at Adcom Communications in Cleveland.

**John Walsh, BA '87**, manager of electronic text technologies for Indiana University's Digital Library Program/University Information Technology Services, earned a doctorate in English literature from the university in December. He and his wife, **Susan Garcia Walsh, BA '90**, live in Bloomington, Ind.

**Laura Landry Meyer, BS '88, MS '91**, received her doctorate in 1999 from Ohio State University and is an assistant professor of family studies at Bowling Green State University. Her husband, **Doug Meyer, BS '86, MS '97**, is an audit supervisor at Regional Income Tax Agency. They live in Bowling Green with their two children.



**Regina Randall Peal, BSHEC '88, MHSA '90, PHD '98**, is director of student activities and athletics at Columbus State Community College. She also is president of the Alpha Sigma Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in Columbus. She and her husband, **Darryl Peal, MSS '91**, live in Reynoldsburg, Ohio.

**Lori Lautanen Wilhelm, BSED '88**, is a student recruiter at the Community College of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas. She and her husband, Doug, had their first child, Anna, in July 2000.

**Heather Hartle Baldino, BSJ '89**, is vice president of new marketing at Turner Network Sales and is responsible for the marketing efforts of CNN. She and her husband, **Mark**

**Baldino, BSEE '90**, had a son, Jacob, in December.

## Capturing a fading generation

**Gary Kirksey, MA '86**, began photographing residents in his hometown of Alliance, Ohio, about five years ago. He was inspired to begin the visual journey when he went to a family reunion and realized many of the older townspeople were dying.



This photo by Gary Kirksey of relatives Andrew and Veetta Terrell was one of two images from his collection featured in the Brooklyn Museum of Art exhibit.

"Each time I would go back, I would hear that two or three people had passed away, and I don't want to forget their generation," says Kirksey, an Ohio University assistant professor of visual communication.

So he created "Losing a Generation: 44601," a collection of images of family members of local residents, including a woman who was the first African-American to work in the town's largest department store.

Two of Kirksey's images from the collection were featured in the locally acclaimed Brooklyn Museum of Art exhibit "Committed to the Image: Contemporary Black Photographers" on display earlier this spring. He was one of 94 photographers whose works were showcased in the exhibit and a corresponding book.

During the show's opening, he met two other Ohio University alumni whose images were part of the exhibit: **Adger Cowans, BFA '99**, and **Chuck Stewart, BFA '49**.

"It was very inspirational for me," Kirksey says. "Shows like this happen very often. The diversity of the photography was amazing."

—Melissa

**Eric Bechtel, MSA '89**, is chief marketing officer at BigBallot Inc., a promotional marketing company in New York City. He lives with his wife, Felicia, in Upper Saddle River, N.J.

**Carol Harter, LHD '89**, president of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, was named one of the most influential business women in Southern Nevada by the publication *In Business Las Vegas*. Harter worked at Ohio University from 1970 to 1989 in various roles, including as an English professor, university ombudsman, vice president and dean of students and vice president for administration.

**Jacqueline Koch, BSJ '89, MA '98**, a freelance photographer in the Puget Sound area of Washington, was awarded a Pew Fellowship for International Journalism last year. She is a frequent contributor to *The Seattle Times*' Sunday magazine, *Pacific*. Her documentary projects cover such issues as AIDS support services in Washington, D.C., Indonesia's Kenyah Dayak minority and Hong Kong immigrants in Vancouver. The fellowship will allow her to study in Indonesia.

**Susan Smolik, BFA '89**, of Parkersburg, W.Va., retired after teaching art history at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and is opening an art business featuring painting and woodworking exhibits. She continues to do research on American painters in Maine's former art colonies.

**Tracey Taggart, BBA '89**, has been admitted to the partnership at the professional services

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firm Deloitte & Touche in Columbus. Formerly a senior manager in the firm's audit practice, she has been with the company for 10 years.



**Paul Woodbury, BSEE '89**, is a controls project engineer for Makino in Mason, Ohio. He and his wife, **Colleen McCamey Woodbury, BSC '88**, have a daughter, Lauren.

## 1990s

**Rebecca Butler, BJSJ '90**, is manager of corporate outreach services at Sinclair Community College in Dayton, Ohio.



**Hope Tanhoff Goldberg, BBA '90**, and her husband, **Michael Goldberg, BSSPS '91**, were married in September in Cape May, N.J. Hope is the director of international finance for

Viacom Inc. in New York City, and Michael is an advertising account executive for *The Hudson Reporter* in Hoboken, N.J.

**Kristina Edmond Hays, BSC '90**, and **Brian Hays, BSC '93**, of Rancho Santa Margarita, Calif., were married in August 1997 and had their first child, Karl Robert, in August 2000. Brian is the watch coordinator for Oakley Inc., and Kristina is chief financial officer and a partner with Agency Escrow Inc.

**Mark Heinzerling, BA '90**, and his wife, **Nancy Neel Andrus Heinzerling, BA '91**, of Delaware, Ohio, had their first child, Clayton Daniel, in April 2000. Mark is an attorney at the law firm Pencheff and Fraley in Columbus, and Nancy is a program director for SupportCare Inc.

**Irene Kehayas, BSC '90**, of North Brunswick, N.J., is a salesperson for Merck and Co. She recently received her MBA from Rider University and is planning a September wedding.

**Aaron Kellenberger, BSC '90, MED '92**, is associate director of admissions at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He and his wife,

**Elizabeth Kellenberger, BSJ '92**, live in Cincinnati.

**Valerie Ciccarello Sandru, BSJD '90**, and her husband, Charles, had their first child, Ashley Marie, in July 2000. Valerie is a special education teacher at North Olmsted (Ohio) Middle School and coaches varsity girls' basketball at the high school.

**Andrew Wilson, BSC '90**, of South Bend, Ind., is a graphics coordinator in the marketing department of 1st Source Bank. He was director of the late news at FOX-28 for seven years.

**Julie Beeson-Logan, BA '91**, and her husband, Tom, are opening a new restaurant called Hannibal Brown's in Aspen, Colo., that features natural gourmet cuisine. They have three children, Ryland, Maxwell and Cassidy Anne.

**Michelle Lukacsko Chini, BSSPS '91**, assistant director of sports media relations at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, married Mark Chini in June 2000.

**Brenda Cooper, PhD '91**, director of women's studies at Utah State University, has been promoted to associate professor with tenure in the Department of Journalism and Communication. She and her husband, **Edward Pease, PhD '91**, are on a research sabbatical this academic year.

**Sheri Rataiczak McAninch, BSJD '91, MED '94**, of Bellaire, Ohio, has taught sixth-grade English in Bellaire City Schools for 10 years. She and her husband, Robert, have two children, Sarah Adrienne and Andrew Thomas.

**Wendy Morehart Mitchell, BSJD '91**, a teacher at Grove City High School in Mechanicsburg, Ohio, earned a master's degree in education from Urbana University in 1999. She married Randy Mitchell in May 1999.

# Lower taxes.

Wondering if planned giving still makes sense despite estate tax changes? Life-income gifts, such as gift annuities and remainder trusts, can reduce capital gains taxes and provide income tax savings. In most cases, the donor can increase income derived from the gifted asset and make a wonderful contribution to Ohio University.

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## BOBCAT TRACKS

**Steve Wagner, BSC '91**, is the mid-Atlantic region video production manager at Charter Media in Vienna, W.Va.

**Anne Wainscott, BSJ '91**, is an Atlanta-based media relations consultant and writer focusing on the high-tech industry.

**Jim Gartman, BSAS '92**, is a pilot for TWA, and his wife, **Tracy Habart Gartman, BSBD '92**, is a social worker for Head Start. They live in Brunswick, Ohio.

**Jeffrey Pearson, BSISE '92**, earned his master's degree in engineering management from the University of Missouri-Rolla. A captain in the U.S. Air Force, he recently was transferred from Headquarters Air Mobility Command to the Pentagon.

**Neil Stenger, BSS '92**, of Olmsted, Ohio, is a senior consultant and product specialist at Intellinet, an e-learning venture of Ernst & Young.

**Scott Vieson, BBA '92**, had a second daughter in December and recently earned an MBA in quality management from the University of Akron.



**John Byers, BSME '93**, is a sales engineer at The Timken Corp.'s Cleveland sales office.

**Kevin King, BA '93**, practices family law at Ecker and Standish in Las Vegas and was admitted to the Wisconsin Bar.

**Andy Krajnak, BSME '93**, is lead propulsion design engineer for Lockheed Martin's newest rocket system, Atlas V.

**Joshua Marks, BBA '93**, is an associate in the law firm Arter & Hadden in Cleveland.

**Heather McIlvaine-Newsad, MA '93**, an assistant professor of anthropology at Western Illinois University, earned a doctorate in anthropology from the University of Florida in August 2000. She and her husband, Michael Newsad, had a daughter, Willow Roan, in October.

**Matt McLaughlin, BSC '93**, is director of media relations and broadcaster for the Schaumburg Flyers, a minor league

baseball team in suburban Chicago.

**Derek Montgomery, BSC '93**, is a paramedic and firefighter for the City of Moraine, Ohio. His wife, **Rebecca Moore Montgomery, BSHS '94**, is a speech pathologist at the Greene County Educational Service Center. Their first child, Katelyne, was born in October 1999.

**Christine Patterson Navin, BSH '93**, the HMO director at Knox Community Hospital, received her MBA from Capital University last year. She and her husband, **Todd Navin, BBA '92**, live in Mount Vernon, Ohio.

**Bart Tackett, BA '93**, of Chicago is a field special agent with the U.S. Secret Service. He is married to **Stephanie Tackett, BS '97**.

**Aleesa Blair Womer, BS '93**, and her husband, Kevin, had their first child, Grayson, in March 2000. Aleesa works in the human resources department at Longaberger Co. in Newark, Ohio.

**William Ihlenfeld, BSJ '94**, and his wife, **Becket Anne Cort Ihlenfeld, BSMS '94**, had their first child, Sarah Louise, in February 2000. William is an assistant prosecuting attorney in Ohio County and Becket is a full-time mom. They live in Wheeling, W.Va.

**Jason Kent, BS '94**, a water resources engineer at HDR Inc. in Boise, Idaho, earned a master's degree in civil engineering from Colorado State University in 1999.

**Katherine Kozak, BMUS '94**, is an associate coach at The Juilliard School of Music in New York City.

**Heather Smith Maurer, BSJ '94**, an alumni and development communications manager at the University of Dayton, earned an MBA in May 2000 from Case Western Reserve University's Weatherhead School of Management.

**Jeffrey McIlwain, MA '94**, is an assistant professor of criminal justice and criminology in the School of Public Admin-

## Aiming for the sky

As the space shuttle Endeavor blasted off in November, the crowd assembled near Cape Canaveral watched, enthralled. But for one University alumna, the shuttle's eight-and-a-half-minute ascent was positively nerve-wracking.

**Heather Chluda, BSME '98**, was experiencing it from a monitoring center in California via video feed back. As a mission co-coordinator, she was responsible for the Rocketdyne turbopumps that feed the shuttle's main engines with fuel and oxygen. It's her job at Boeing Co.'s Rocketdyne Propulsion and Power Division in Canoga Park, Calif., to increase the lift of the turbopumps through testing. She also provides research and engineering services for shuttle flights.

"During the launch, when everyone else was yelling and clapping after the shuttle cleared the tower, I sat silent for the longest eight and a half minutes of my life," she remembers.

Chluda has long been fascinated by the cosmos. When she entered college, she knew she wanted to pursue a career in the space industry. She credits Ohio University with giving her the technical know-how and problem-solving skills needed for her job.

"I've kept my eyes to the sky since I was young," says Chluda, a private pilot whose long-term aspiration is to be an astronaut. "Space exploration is a worthy cause. It tests our knowledge and takes our ingenuity to new limits."

Her career reached new heights when she became one of 20 engineers selected to support and review data before and during the launch of the Atlantis space shuttle in September. The shuttle's mission was to deliver equipment to the International Space Station.

Chluda hopes she serves as a role model for young people, especially girls. She has spoken to third-graders about her career and supervised high school students through the process of designing a space mission.

"I like for students to see that there are women engineers and you can make a difference," she says.

— Sally

istration and Urban Studies at San Diego State University.

**Nikki Nocera, AB '94**, who graduated from Loyola University Chicago's School of Law in 1998, is a lateral associate at the law firm Wildman, Harrold, Allen & Dixon in Chicago.

**Paul Pegher, BSJ '94**, and his wife, **Deborah Roth Pegher, BA '95**, had their first child, Samuel Charles, in June 2000. Paul is a project manager at élan communications, and Deborah is a behavioral specialist consultant in Pressley Ridge Schools' autism program. They live in Pittsburgh.

**Jennifer Peterlin, BSBD '94**, recently moved from Milwaukee to Bedford, Ohio, where she

teaches third grade at Carywood Intermediate School.

**Garrett Rea, BS '94**, is an industrial hygiene supervisor for the Tennessee OSHA Consultation Program under the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development. He also is involved in TOSHA's training section and with the department's Tennessee Business Institute. He previously worked as an industrial hygiene consultant for TOSHA and as an environmental consultant in the private sector.

**Heidi King Tanner, AB '94**, is a labor employment law paralegal at Vorys, Sater, Seymour & Pease in Columbus. She and her husband, George, had a

baby, George Jr., in October 2000.

**Lynda Coble, BSJ '95**, had her first novel, "Angel in the Road," published by iUniverse.

**Brian Ray, BA '95**, and his wife, **Erica Ray, BA '96**, had their first child, Madison Anne, in April 2000. Brian is assistant director at The Academy at Swift River in Cummingtown, Mass.

**Christina Richards Semple, BSJ '95**, a high school English and journalism teacher in Commack, N.Y., married Jack Semple in Northport, N.Y., in July 2000.

**John Slyman, BBA '95**, is regional marketing director for Nationwide Financial Institution Distributors Agency Inc. in Gaithersburg, Md.

**Leslie Williams, BSC '95**, earned a master's degree in library and information science at the University of Pittsburgh in 1999 and is a reference librarian for New Haven (Conn.) Free Public Library.

**Tonya Beckman, MFA '96**, of Cleveland left the Cleveland

Signstage Theatre acting company to pursue freelance work. Her recent credits include "The Giving Star" at Commonwealth Theatre in Lanesboro, Minn., "Look Back in Anger" at Charenton Theatre in Cleveland and "Zero Tolerance" at Magical Theatre Co. in Barberton, Ohio. She is appearing this spring in "Orphan Train" at Purple Rose Theatre in Chelsea, Mich.

**Jeffrey Bunning, BS '96**, graduated from West Virginia University's School of Medicine in May 2000 and plans to complete an ophthalmology residency at the university.

**Anthony Furbie, BSVC '96**, and his wife, **Alisa Wilson**

**Furbie, BS '96**, had twin girls, Emma Grace and Ashley Taylor, in December 1999. Anthony is chief photographer at *The Sidney Daily News* in Sidney, Ohio, and Alisa is a senior research technician at Spinaker Coating Inc. in Troy, Ohio. Anthony recently won a first-place spot news photo award from The Associated Press Society of Ohio.

**Sean Hughes, BSJ '96**, is a Web marketing and content manager at Franklin University in Columbus. He is engaged to Sue Ellen Patton, a graduate student at Ohio University, and they plan a 2002 wedding.

**Kevin Klotz, BSC '96**, is assistant compliance coordinator for Marshall University's Athletic Department.

**John Martin, BSJ '96**, a staff photographer at *The Times Herald* in Port Huron, Mich., suffered kidney failure and had a transplant in March 2000. To help others going through the transplant process, he has produced a photo-documentary of his experiences. It can be seen on the World Wide Web at [www.johnmartin.net](http://www.johnmartin.net).

**Kay Signorino Metzler, BBA '96**, is a global knowledge manager for the automotive and industrial products industries at Ernst & Young's Center for Business in Cleveland. She married Ben Metzler of Green Bay, Wisc., in October 1999.

**Shannon Okey, BA '96**, is a

financial consultant at the downtown Cleveland office of Salomon Smith Barney and is launching a young professionals networking and social group within the Ohio University Alumni Association's Greater Cleveland Chapter. For information on the group, e-mail Okey at [shannon.k.okey@rssmb.com](mailto:shannon.k.okey@rssmb.com).

**Darin Peterman, BCJ '96**, an executive recruiter and career consultant at Management Recruiters International in Columbus, served as officer in charge of Olympic Village Security at the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta. He soon will be promoted to the rank of captain in the U.S. Army Reserve.

**Stacey-Rae Simcox, BSC '96**, an attorney and officer in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate Generals Corps, graduated from William and Mary School of Law in 1999. She and her husband, Mark Matthews, were married in October 2000 and are stationed in Fort Polk, La.

**Holly Vershum, BSJ '96**, is the marketing manager at

## A snug bug



**Carole Vana Hebert, BSJ '61**, covered this "car cramming" event by Acacia fraternity brothers in April 1959 for a photojournalism class. Rather than let her photo gather any more dust, she recently shipped it back to campus for possible inclusion in the "Ohio University Bicentennial Book, 1804-2004," an Ohio University Press project marking the University's 200th anniversary.

If there's a burgeoning Beetle or, as Carole puts it, some other "campus folly" in your past, let us know. We're interested in memories of outstanding events, classes, people or places that defined your time on campus. Contributions should be less than 500 words. Photos, letters home or other mementos are welcome.

Items or photocopies should be sent to Editor Betty Hollow, Bicentennial Book, 101 Alden Library, Athens, Ohio 45701, or e-mailed to [hollowb@ohio.edu](mailto:hollowb@ohio.edu). Specify whether you'd like the items returned or donated to Ohio University archives.

For more on the project, check the Web at [www.ohio.edu/memories/](http://www.ohio.edu/memories/)



## BOBCAT TRACKS

Brobeck, Phleger and Harrison in Dallas.

**Janine Huber Young, BSJ '96**, is a promotions producer at WISH-TV in Indianapolis. She and her husband, **Kevin Young, BBA '96**, live in Fishers, Ind.

**Denise Steinlechner Cook, BA '97**, and **Matt Cook, BS '97**, of Maple Heights, Ohio, were married in November. Denise recently graduated from Cleveland State Law School and passed the Ohio bar exam.

**Bryan Faller, BSC '97**, of Columbus graduated from Ohio State University's College of Law in May 2000. He is serving a federal judicial clerkship in the Southern District of Ohio. His wife, **Elizabeth Hilty Faller, BS '98**, is a teacher.

**Adrienna Frazer, BSJ '97**, is an account executive at Bella Lingua Public Relations in

Cleveland. She is the former news editor of *The Zanesville Times Recorder* and *The Coshocton Tribune*.

**Timothy Holt, BBA '97**, assistant athletic director for compliance and academic services at Campbell University in Buies Creek, N.C., received his MBA from the university in May 1999.

**Paul Jarvis, BSJ '97**, and **Kami Hosler Jarvis, BSSPS '97, MSPE '98**, were married in September 2000. He is a public inquiries officer for the Ohio Department of Public Safety, and she is a diagnostic technician for Central Ohio Primary Care in Columbus.

**Sarah Morton, BSJ '97**, is managing editor of *How* magazine at F&W Publications in Cincinnati.

**Jennifer Butler-Woodside, AB '97, MA '99**, and **Jay**

**Woodside, AS '94**, had a daughter, Ryley Ann, in August 2000. Jennifer is working on her doctorate in interpersonal communication, and Jay is pursuing a degree in drafting.

**Laura Fightmaster, BFA '98**, recently completed a two-year missionary service with the United Methodist Church in Cedar Falls, Iowa, as a campus ministry assistant for the University of Northern Iowa. She now is working with the General Board of Global Ministries in New York.

**Mary Hess, MED '98**, a teacher at Little Hocking Elementary School in Little Hocking, Ohio, earned national board certification as an early childhood generalist.

**Amy Rosel Nofziger, BA '98**, married Matt Nofziger in April 2000. She works for the Cherry Creek Arts Festival, and he is employed by Janus Funds. The

couple live in Denver.

**Karen Boltz Gorretta, BS '99**, and **John Gorretta, BS '00**, were married in July 2000. She teaches choral music and he teaches instrumental music at Sheridan High School in Thornville, Ohio.

**David Jablonski, BSJ '99**, is a sports journalist in Vero Beach, Fla.

**Mark Szczepanik, BSJ '99**, is a copywriter at Roman/Peshoff Inc., a public relations and marketing firm in Toledo.

**Alison Moore-Wedebrook, BSJ '99**, is marketing manager for Amherst FiberOptics in Brentwood, Tenn. She married Christopher Wedebrook in August.

*The Bobcat Tracks section was compiled by Katie Fitzgerald, BSJ '03, with assistance from the Alumni Information Services staff.*

## What's new?

Share your news with fellow alumni by completing this form and mailing it to: Bobcat Tracks, Alumni Information Services, Ohio University, 168 HDL Center, Athens, Ohio 45701-0869; sending an e-mail to [ohiotoday@ohio.edu](mailto:ohiotoday@ohio.edu) or a fax to (740) 593-0706; or filling out an online form at [www.ohio.edu/ohiotoday/](http://www.ohio.edu/ohiotoday/)

Name .....  
First Middle initial Maiden Last

Degree and year of graduation (see key at right) .....

ID number (from top line of your Ohio Today mailing label) .....

Spouse's name .....

Degree and year of graduation (if an Ohio University alum) .....

Address .....  
Street

City ..... State ..... ZIP .....

Home phone .....

Business phone .....

(indicate which is daytime phone)

Please check:

- |   |   |                                |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Promotion/job change | <input type="checkbox"/> Death                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Award |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wedding              | <input type="checkbox"/> Send me an update form                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birth                | <input type="checkbox"/> Send me local alumni chapter information |                                |

### Degree abbreviation key

- AA - Associate in Arts
- AAB - Associate in Applied Business
- AS - Associate in Applied Science
- AB - Bachelor of Arts
- AIS - Associate in Individualized Studies
- AS - Associate in Science
- BA - Bachelor of Arts
- BBA - Bachelor of Business Administration
- BCJ - Bachelor of Criminal Justice
- BFA - Bachelor of Fine Arts
- BGS - Bachelor of General Studies
- BMUS - Bachelor of Music
- BS - Bachelor of Science
- BSA - Bachelor of Science in Aviation
- BSAS - Bachelor of Science in Airway Science
- BSAT - Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training
- BSC - Bachelor of Science in Communication or Commerce (specify)
- BSCS - Bachelor of Science in Computer Science
- BSCE - Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering
- BSCH - Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering
- BSED - Bachelor of Science in Education
- BSEE - Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering
- BSEN - Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health
- BSH - Bachelor of Science in Health
- BSHCS - Bachelor of Science in Human and Consumer Sciences
- BSHEC - Bachelor of Science in Home Economics
- BSHSS - Bachelor of Science in Hearing and Speech Sciences
- BSISE - Bachelor of Science in Industrial and Systems Engineering
- BSIH - Bachelor of Science in Industrial Hygiene

- BSIT - Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology
- BSJ - Bachelor of Science in Journalism
- BSME - Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering
- BSN - Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- BSPE - Bachelor of Science in Physical Education
- BSPT - Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy
- BSRS - Bachelor of Science in Recreational Studies
- BSSPS - Bachelor of Science in Sport Sciences
- BSS - Bachelor of Specialized Studies
- BSVC - Bachelor of Science in Visual Communication
- DO - Doctor of Osteopathy
- EDD - Doctor of Education
- MA - Master of Arts
- MAHSS - Master of Arts in Hearing and Speech Sciences
- MBA - Master of Business Administration
- MED - Master of Education
- MFA - Master of Fine Arts
- MHA - Master of Health Administration
- MHSA - Master of Health Services Administration
- MLS - Master of Liberal Studies
- MM - Master of Music
- MPA - Master of Public Administration
- MPT - Master of Physical Therapy
- MS - Master of Science
- MSA - Master of Sports Administration
- MSAC - Master of Science in Accountancy
- MSHEC - Master of Science in Home Economics
- MSPE - Master of Science in Physical Education
- MSPEX - Master of Science in Exercise Physiology
- MSS - Master of Social Science
- PHD - Doctor of Philosophy

# IN MEMORIAM

REMEMBERING FELLOW ALUMNI

## 1920s

**Kathryn O'Brien, EMER '00**, Delray Beach, Fla., Aug. 27, 1997; **Ernest Robinson, ABC '25**, Smyrna, Ga., Feb. 6, 2000; **Harold Root, INDE '26, BSED '30**, Cincinnati, Jan. 28, 2000; **Dorothy Jones Strub, BSED '27**, Circleville, Ohio, Nov. 3; **Mary Evans, BSED '28, MA '38**, Canton, Ohio, Jan. 28, 2000; **Zella Armstrong Nicholas, ELED '29**, Dayton, Ohio, July 29, 1999; **Edra Lantz Williams, COED '29, BSED '37**, Trimble, Ohio, Sept. 25.

## 1930s

**Esther Shilt Mitchell, KP '30**, Dayton, Ohio, Sept. 24; **Hugh Davis, AB '32**, Pomeroy, Ohio, Nov. 29; **Julie Scoville Titus, KP '32, ELED '33**, Elmira, N.Y., Dec. 3, 1996; **Mary Mitchell Walker, ELED '32, BSED '51**, Lancaster, Ohio, March 11, 2000; **Sally Purdy Park, BSED '33**, Belleair Beach, Fla., July 4; **Martha White Trace, ELED '33, BSED '35**, Sun City, Ariz., July 25; **Georgia Allen Jeffers, KP '34, BSED '45**, Gahanna, Ohio, Nov. 26; **Idah Stuart Rice, AB '34**, Casper, Md., Nov. 24, 1999; **Virgil Cross, AB '35**, Columbus, July 7; **Geneva Pugh Barnhill, ELED '36**, Medina, Ohio, Oct. 26; **Hilda Jane Ellis Hirst, BSED '36**, Madison, Wis., June 19; **Robert Hughes, AB '36**, Toronto, Ohio, Dec. 25; **Albert Bergesen, BSED '37**, Westlake Village, Calif., May 30, 1999; **Helen Wood Dellert, BSHE '37**, Lenox, Mass., Nov. 12, 1999; **James Davis, BSED '38, MED '60**, Gallipolis, Ohio, Dec. 3; **Ruth Goodwin, COED '38, BSED '47**, Logan, Ohio, Nov. 25; **Patricia Reed Kreiger, AB '38**, Battle Creek, Mo., Feb. 23, 1999; **William Warmington, BSCO '38**, Chesterfield, Mo., Oct. 12; **William Clifford, BSCO '39**, Cleveland, Aug. 21, 1997; **Natalie Weininger Fulk, BSED '39**, Yuma, Ariz., Nov. 6; **Jack Heslop, BSCO '39**, Akron, Ohio, April 1998; **Paul Lewis, '39**, Athens, Oct. 11, 1995; **Robert Moyer, BSED '39**, Wilmington, Ohio, July 26; **Homer Willis, BSCE '39**, Bethesda, Ohio, Aug. 17.

## 1940s

**Mary Harrold Bidlack, BSED '40**, Willoughby, Ohio, March 8, 2000; **Mary Jean Pickens Davis, BSED '40**, Utica, N.Y., Oct. 11; **Fred Frazer, BS '40**, Ocala, Fla., May 20; **Alfred Gabriel, BSED '40, MS '51**, Circleville, Ohio, Dec. 25; **Sara Mae Gruy, BSED '40**, Conneaut, Ohio, Dec. 2; **Elaine Beeler Heslop, BSED '40**, Akron, Ohio, February 1998; **Alice Reidenbach Overholt, BSED '40**, Middle Point, Ohio, Dec. 5; **Arthur Horning, BSC '41**, Washington Court House, Ohio, July 14; **William Merkel, AB '41**, Cleveland, Feb. 5, 2000; **John Morgan, BSCO '41**, Thornton, Pa., April 18, 1997; **John Sprague Todd, BSCO '41**, Peoria, Ariz., Aug. 29; **Richard Settle, BSCO '42**, Franklin, Tenn., Dec. 15, 1999; **Virginia Glover Zoerb, BSJ '42**, Youngstown, Ohio, Nov. 19; **Rose Devendra, BSED '43**, Bellaire, Ohio, September 1998; **Dorothy Spahman Mead, '43**, Atlanta, March 12, 2000; **Gloria Hoodlett Brooks, '44**, Nelsonville, Ohio, Jan. 23, 2000; **Arthur Hauser, AB '44**, Pompano Beach, Fla., May 9, 2000; **John Winfield, BSCO '44**, Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., July 22; **Nancy Edman Novario, '45**, Maderia Beach, Fla., July 24; **Jacqueline McCalla Smith, BSHE '46, MSHE '48**, Newton, Kan., Aug. 25; **Charles Betz Jr., BSCO '47**, Hilliard, Ohio, Oct. 7; **Jane Cranmer Lutt, BSED '47**, Cincinnati, Aug. 30; **Robert McKellogg, BSED '47**, Fullerton, Calif., January 1999; **Elizabeth Riley Wolfe, AB '47**, Worthington, Ohio, July 22; **Stephen Acierno, MS '48**, Bellevue, Ohio, Aug. 7; **Walter Fahnestock Jr., AB '48**, Tenafly, N.J., Aug. 20, 1991; **William Hasselbach, BSCO '48**, Middletown, Ohio, Sept. 23; **Janie Wentz Kerman, BFA '48**, Whispering Pines, N.C., July 13; **Ruth Klier, MSHE '48**, Sunnyvale, Calif., Aug. 3; **Donald Koran, BSCO '48**, Corona, Calif., April 13, 2000; **Charles Wallace McVay, '48, AB '63**, Portland, Ore., July 7.

## 1950s

**Barton Blair Jr., '50**, Columbus, March 26, 2000; **Van Blanchard, AB '50**, Coshocton, Ohio, July 29; **Hayden Crabtree, BSCO '50**, Perrysburg, Ohio, Nov. 2; **Joan Specht Mackin, BSED '50**, Rocky River, Ohio, July 28; **Alan McGraw, BSED '50**, Warren, Ohio, Dec. 23; **John Mitchell, BSED '50**, Reynoldsburg, Ohio, Dec. 15; **Raymond Tharp, BSJ '50**, Mansfield, Ohio, March 24, 2000; **Evan Evans, MED '51**, Oak Hill, Ohio, Sept. 4; **John Wamsley, BSCO '51**, Vernal, Utah, Oct. 27; **Michael Fitas, '52**, Youngstown, Ohio, Aug. 10; **Joseph Robie, BSCO '52, AA '51**, Perrysburg, Ohio, Aug. 4; **Edmund Cooke, BSED '53**, Euclid, Ohio, June 9, 2000; **Bob Kober, AB '55**, Columbus, June 30, 2000; **Myrna Cohen Miller, BSED '55**, Cincinnati, Oct. 8; **William Ragland, BSCO '55**, Nashville, April 12, 1999; **Ronald Ayers, BSCO '56**, Columbus, July 31, 1998; **John Stanko, BSAE '56**, Gwynn Oak, Md., July 3; **Joseph Stone, BSCO '56**, Plymouth, Mo., July 3, 1999; **Lenore Carter Gardner, BSED '58**, Punta Gorda, Fla., June 16, 1998; **Robert Olson, BS '58, MS '60**, Lutz, Fla., Nov. 14; **James Smilie, BSIT '58**, Alexandria, La., June 16, 1999; **Lawrence Tavar, BSJ '58**, Stamford, Conn., Aug. 30; **Juliann Schuster Weber, BSED '58**, Chagrin Falls, Ohio, Nov. 3.

## 1960s

**Charles Hancock Hittson, BSME '60**, Chamblee, Ga., Nov. 4; **Thomas Plummer, AB '60**, Columbus, July 9, 1999; **Robert Turk, BSJ '60**, Chestnut Ridge, N.Y., Sept. 4; **Franklin Whitmore, BSEE '60**, Nelsonville, Ohio, Jan. 4; **George Levin, BSED '61, MED '64**, Pierre, S.D., May 30, 2000; **Miriam Doak Deck, BSED '62**, Martinsville, Ohio, May 22, 2000; **Lauray Stuckman Miller, AB '62**, Hartford, Conn., Sept. 27; **James Wilson, MED '62**, Canton, Ohio, July 13; **Nancy Russell Gruber, BFA '63**, Defiance, Ohio, Aug. 21; **David Pixley, BS '63**, Cincinnati, Oct. 16; **Virgil Irons, BSED '65**,

Bainbridge, Ohio, June 15, 2000; **Janet Rhoads, BSED '65**, Lady Lake, Fla., Aug. 27; **Harly Mann, BSME '66**, Canton, Ohio, March 18, 2000; **Helen Pearl Schaffner, BSED '66**, Baltimore, Ohio, June 17, 1997; **Richard Newman, BA '66**, Fremont, Ohio, Aug. 29; **Robert Martin, BBA '68**, Portsmouth, Ohio, July 8; **Mary McIlhatch, MA '68**, Pittsburgh, Pa., March 27, 1992; **Larry Eppley, BSED '69**, Put-In-Bay, Ohio, Dec. 21; **Mary Heatherton Upton, AB '69**, Columbus, Nov. 21.

## 1970s

**John Abbott, AB '70**, New York, N.Y., Oct. 21; **R. Thomas King, BSJ '70**, Worthington, Ohio, Dec. 14, 1999; **Louis Durborow, PHD '71**, Columbus, Dec. 20, 1997; **Joseph Butts, BS '72**, Richmond, Texas, Jan. 2; **Gary Singleton, BBA '72**, Ironton, Ohio, Dec. 10; **Bonnie Ball Fox, BSED '73, MED '76**, Baltimore, Ohio, Aug. 14; **Elmer Jagow, LLD '73**, Chardon, Ohio, Aug. 7; **Jan Carter, BSED '74**, Utica, Ohio, Nov. 9; **James Mason, BSED '74**, Lake Worth, Fla., March 3, 2000; **Bruce Basinger, BGS '76**, Cincinnati, Oct. 13; **Eva Barnett Walsh, BSN '78**, Hillsboro, Ohio, July 10.

## 1980s

**Neal Berkhouse, MA '80**, Alexandria, Va., Sept. 8; **Sue Tucker, MED '81**, Oak Ridge, Tenn., Dec. 3, 1998; **Sharon Lutz, BSN '82**, Zanesville, Ohio, July 20; **David Teuscher, BBA '82**, Cleveland, July 31; **Evajean Fortney McKnight, AAB '85**, Coolville, Ohio, March 10, 1999; **Bernie Counts Jr., BS '87**, Dublin, Ohio, June 25.

## 1990s

**So Nog Felita Yip Lo, BSC '94, MS '98**, San Leandro, Calif., June 30, 2000; **Kathy Largent, MSS '96**, Ashville, Ohio, Oct. 26.

## 2000s

**Charles Minelli**, Athens, associate professor of music from 1951 to 1976 and director of bands from 1951 to 1967, March 15.

## Ohio University unites us all

By Ralph Amos



One of the most enjoyable aspects of our work in the alumni business is getting to know thousands of fascinating, committed graduates and friends of Ohio University. Their interests in and support of the University are as diverse as their nationalities, regions, dialects and skin colors. In most ways imaginable, our graduates are a microcosm of our exciting and wonderful world.

This issue of *Ohio Today* — with its focus on our University's ties around the world — prompted me to reflect on my own ethnicity. It made me think about what it means to be an African-American in today's society, what it means to be the CEO, a black CEO, of a major university alumni association. Is the world a better place for me, I wondered, than it was for my father, 20 years my senior?

I concluded that we are getting better, yet we still have room for improvement.

All of this leads me to a topic that has been weighing on my mind lately. How do we best serve the wonderfully diverse populations of Ohio University graduates? How can we reach out in ways that are meaningful and valuable? What does it take, and how do we know when we have done it correctly?

About the same time this magazine arrives in your mailbox, the Alumni Association will be sponsoring a huge reunion. This unique event promises to attract more than 600 African-American and other black Ohio University graduates to Athens to reconnect with each other and their alma mater. The idea is to effectively engage these alumni in the life of Ohio University.

Next March, we plan a Celebration of Women Weekend with special events and programs aimed at female graduates. It will focus on issues facing



Charles Clarke Jr., AB '33, Patricia Ackerman, BA '66, and President Robert Glidden at the 1998 Black Alumni Reunion.

women today, give graduates the opportunity to share their experiences and ideas about success with current students and provide a forum for faculty, staff and administrators to gain insight into how best to prepare female students for the lead-



Alumni leaf through a yearbook during a recent Golden Era Reunion.

ership roles they will assume in life.

These are just two examples of the types of dynamic programs that are making a difference on our campus and others across the country. Yet this sort of specialized programming might lead you to believe we are trying to segregate our alumni populations. In fact, I receive several calls a year from alumni concerned that this sort of targeted activity actually hurts the social fabric of the institution. "By now," they ask, "can't we all get along?"

Not surprisingly, this conversation is taking place in alumni association boardrooms and staff meetings across the country as we work to best serve our universities and meet the needs of our amazingly diverse alumni. The fact is, programs based on college, school or specific interest draw people together in meaningful ways — and all are held in the name and spirit of Ohio University. The alumni office thinks of this type of programming not as special, just different.

As the University has grown over the past half century, so have the backgrounds and interests of our students and graduates. We are all benefactors of that diversity.

So the next time you get together with the folks who live on your block, with the people who attend your church or with the friends and relatives who share your heritage, consider how valuable the thread that connects you with others.

And if that thread is Ohio University, all the better.

*Ralph Amos is assistant vice president and executive director of alumni relations.*

### Reaching our alumni

Here's a glance at Alumni Association events — past, present and future — aimed at target audiences within the Ohio University family:

- Alumni College
- Alumni Band Reunion
- Aspire Leadership Conference
- Black Alumni Reunion
- Celebration of Women Weekend
- Cheerleader Reunion
- Fraternity and sorority events
- Hockey Reunion
- Inn Group gatherings
- Moms, Dads, Sibs and Parents Weekend events
- WOUB Radio Reunion





Ohio University Alumni Association

# Planning for the future!

<b>2001</b>	May 20-26	In the Wake of Lewis and Clark Tour
	June 1-3	Honors Tutorial College Society of Alumni and Friends Board Meeting
	June 11-19	Alumni College in Spain
	June 15-19	Golden Reunion, Class of 1951
	June 17-July 11	2001 Graduates Essential Europe Tour
	June 22-24	Massachusetts Chapter Serving New England 44th Monomoy Theatre Weekend
	June 24	Sarasota (Fla.) Chapter Golden Apple Dinner Theatre
	July 11-19	Alumni College in Wales and Northern England
	July 19-22	Alumni College 2001 - Ohio University
	July 29	Sarasota (Fla.) Chapter Beach Volleyball and Dinner at Bradenton Beach
	Aug. 4	Central Ohio Chapter 11th Annual Alumni Golf Outing
	Sept. 10-20	Kenya Wildlife Safari
	Sept. 23-Oct. 8	Ancient Treasures of China Tour
	Oct. 24-Nov. 1	Alumni College in Sorrento, Italy
	Oct. 25-27	Homecoming 2001
	Nov. 3-9	Antebellum South and Intercoastal Waterways Tour
	Nov. 19	School of Music Society of Alumni and Friends Board Meeting
	Dec. 1	Sarasota (Fla.) Chapter Holiday Celebration
	Dec. 11-19	Alumni College in Leipzig, Germany

<b>2002</b>	Jan. 2	Sarasota (Fla.) Chapter Circus
	Jan. 18-20	Aspire Leadership Conference in Las Vegas
	March 15-17	Celebration of Women Reunion and Conference
	May 17-19	Golden Reunion, Class of 1952
	June 14-16	Chi Omega Reunion
	July 11-24	Ohio Schools Journey of Czars Tour



For more information on these events, visit the Web at [www.ohiou.edu/alumni](http://www.ohiou.edu/alumni) or contact the Alumni Association at (740) 593-4300 or [alumni@ohio.edu](mailto:alumni@ohio.edu).

## Broadway's 'AIDA' coming to Cleveland

Support Ohio University's Performing Arts Endowment by joining alumni and friends for a Cleveland performance of the Broadway musical "AIDA" next spring. The Tony award-winning musical, with a score by Elton John and Tim Rice, is an update of Verdi's operatic tale about a love triangle involving the would-be leader of ancient Egypt, a pharaoh's daughter and an enslaved Nubian princess. The March 23, 2002, performance is at State Theater in Cleveland's Playhouse Square Center. Prime seating and a reception at the theater are included. Look for details in the fall *Ohio Today* or call (740) 593-1800.



# 'Cats on the run



The Electric Bobcat Racing Team — a contingent of students from the Russ College of Engineering and Technology — is on the fast track for the seventh-straight year. With a professionally certified race car driver behind the wheel, the University will participate in four races this spring against competitors Notre Dame, Florida State, Ohio State, Bowling Green and others. The team, which redesigns much of the electric car each year, is shooting for speeds of 115 to 120 mph with this year's model. Stay on top of Bobcat racing action via the Web at [www.ent.ohio.edu/~ebobcat/](http://www.ent.ohio.edu/~ebobcat/).

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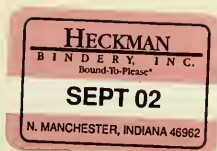
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